

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FREEDOM OF INFORMATION/PRIVACY ACTS SECTION
COVER SHEET

SUBJECT: BROOKE L. HART

NOTICE

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OBTAINABLE ARE INCLUDED IN THE
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FILM/MICROFICHE HARD COPY.
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BLURRED, LIGHT OR OTHERWISE
DIFFICULT TO READ ARE THE
RESULT OF THE CONDITION OF THE
MICROFILM/MICROFICHE
PROVIDED. THIS IS THE BEST COPY
OR COPIES AVAILABLE.**

THE COMPANY WILL APPRECIATE SUGGESTIONS FROM ITS PATRONS CONCERNING ITS SERVICE

CLASS OF SERVICE

This is a full-rate Telegram or Cablegram unless its deferred character is indicated by a suitable sign above or preceding the address.

WESTERN UNION

((137))

D. B. WHITE
PRESIDENT

WILLIAM CARLSON
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

A. E. WILSON
VICE-PRESIDENT

SIGNS

DL - Day Letter
NLT - Night Letter
LC - Day Letter
NLT - Night Letter
Day Letter

The filing time as shown in the date box on full-rate telegrams and day letters, and the time of receipt at destination as shown on all messages, is STANDARD TIME.

Received at 708 14th St., N. W. Washington, D. C.

223 NOV 13 AM 3

RXFA2 52 GOVT COLLECT=SANFRANCISCO CALIF 10 1230A

DIRECTOR DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION=

★ US DEPT OF JUSTICE WASHDC=

A J HART APPARENTLY KIDNAPPED AT SANFRANCISCO ABOUT SEVEN PM
TONIGHT ORIGINALLY FROM SANJOSE BUT VISITING SANFRANCISCO
THIS AFTERNOON VICTIM AGED TWENTY TWO DRIVING STUDEBAKER
PRESIDENT EIGHT RELATIVES AT SANJOSE HAVE RECEIVED TWO
TELEPHONE CALLS FROM SANFRANCISCO DEMANDING LARGE SUM
MONEY STOP AM HANDLING WITH POLICE WILL FURNISH FURTHER

DETAILS LATER

VETTERLI.

RECORDED

INDEXED

WESTERN UNION GIFT ORDERS ARE APPROPRIATE GIFTS FOR ALL OCCASIONS

THE COMPANY WILL APPROPRIATE SUGGESTIONS FROM ITS PATRONS CONCERNING ITS SERVICE

CLASS OF SERVICE

This is a full-rate Telegram or Cablegram unless its deferred character is indicated by a suitable sign above or preceding the address.

WESTERN UNION

(11)

SIGNS

DL = Day Letter
NM = Night Message
NL = Night Letter
LC = Telegram Cable
NY = Cable Night Letter
Ship Radiogram

The filing time as shown in the above line on full-rate telegrams and day letters, and the time of receipt at destination as shown on all messages, is STANDARD TIME.

Received at 708 14th St., N. W. Washington, D. C.

955 NOV 10 AM 4 13

RXF: 3 24 GOVT COLLECT=SANFRANCISCO CALIF 10 110A

DIRECTOR DIV OF INVESTIGATION U S DEPT OF JUSTICE=

WASH DC=

CORRECTION ON PREVIOUS INFORMATION RELATIVE A J HART
KIDNAPING VICTIM DISAPPEARED SIX PM THURSDAY FROM SANJOSE
CALIFORNIA FORTY THOUSAND RANSOM DEMANDED FOLLOWING UP=

VETTERLI.

RECEIVED

INDEXED

NOV 11 1933

7-375-2

DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION

NOV 11 1933

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

WESTERN UNION GIFT ORDERS ARE APPROPRIATE GIFTS FOR ALL OCCASIONS

Mr. Nathan

Mr. Tolson

Mr. Clegg

Mr. Egan

Mr. Glavin

Mr. Ladd

Mr. Nichols

Mr. Rosen

Mr. Tracy

Mr. Carson

Mr. Coffey

Mr. Hendon

Mr. Jones

Mr. Quinn

Mr. Nease

Mr. Gurnea

Mr. Harbo

Mr. Mohr

Mr. Pennington

Mr. Nease

Mr. Gurnea

Mr. Harbo

Mr. Mohr

Mr. Pennington

7-375-2

EPO:CS

NOVEMBER 10 1933

RECORDED

NOV 11 1933

R E VETTERLI
DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION
U S DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
412 KEMP BUILDING
SAN FRANCISCO CALIFORNIA

A J HART KIDNAPING SUBMIT TELEGRAPHIC SUMMARY REPORTS DAILY

WIRE LETTER

ROOVER

POSTAL

SPC

Postal Telegraph

THE INTERNATIONAL SYSTEM

Commercial
Cable



Wireless
Cable

Mackay

Radio

Mr. Nathan	
Mr. Lacey	
Mr. Egan	
Mr. Quinn	
Mr. Lister	
Mr. Lock	

CB3 109 NL COLLECT

1933 NOV 11 PM 6 07

SA SAN FRANCISCO CALIF 10

DIRECTOR DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION

US DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE WASH DC

BROOKS HART KIDNAPING TWO TELEPHONE CALLS RECEIVED LAST NIGHT
FROM SAN FRANCISCO TO SANJOSE TO VICTIMS PARENTS DEMANDING FORTY
THOUSAND DOLLARS ADVISING VICTIMS PARENTS THEY WOULD BE CALLED
FRIDAY SET UP COMPLETED HERE BUT NO DEVELOPMENTS TODAY AGENT
RAMSEY HAS BEEN COVERING SANJOSE WILL BE SANJOSE FRIDAY NIGHT
AND SATURDAY ASSISTING HIM VICTIMS CAR FOUND ABANDONED ABOUT
SEVEN MILES OUTSIDE

RECORDED
&
INDEXED

NOV 11 1933

NATHAN

FILE

RECEIVED AT
TESTIMENT BUREAU
D & K STS. N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C.
BY TELEPHONE FROM
RECEIVED AND FROM MESSAGE

Postal Telegraph

THE INTERNATIONAL SYSTEM

Confidential
Cable



There is full use Telegram, Cablegram or Radiogram unless otherwise indicated by symbol in the check or in the address.

Mr. Nathan	_____
Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Clegg	_____
Mr. Edwards	_____
Mr. Egan	_____
Mr. Hughes	_____
Mr. Quinn	_____
Mr. Lester	_____
Mr. Ladd	_____

446 15 GOWE COLLECTOR SAN FRANCISCO CALIF 11 1245P
DIRECTOR OF INVESTIGATION U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
NOV 11 4 10

BROCKE HART KIDNAPPING LOSANGELES REPORTS SEARCH OF STEAMER
LURLINE WITHOUT RESULTS NO NEW DEVELOPMENTS=
VETTERLI.

Mr. Nathan	_____
Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Clegg	_____
Mr. Edwards	_____
Mr. Egan	_____
Mr. Hughes	_____
Mr. Quinn	_____
Mr. Lester	_____
Mr. Ladd	_____

RECORDED

NOV 13 1933

7-375-4

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

NOV 13 1933

Telephone Your Telegrams to Postal Telegraph

THE COMPANY WILL APPRECIATE SUGGESTIONS FROM ITS PATRONS CONCERNING ITS SERVICE

AS OF SERVICE

This is a full-rate telegram or Cablegram unless its deferred character is indicated by a suitable sign above or preceding the address.

WESTERN UNION

SIGNS

DL - Day Letter
NM - Night Message
NL - Night Letter
LC - Deferred Cable
NLT - Cable Night Letter
Ship Radiogram

The filing time as shown in the date has on full-rate telegrams and day letters, and the time of receipt at destination on cables on all messages, is STANDARD TIME.

Received at 708 14th St., N. W. Washington, D. C.

CC293 12 GOVT COLLECT-SANFRANCISCO CALIF 12 757A

DIRECTOR DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION=

US DEPT OF JUSTICE WASHDC=

BROOKE⁰HART KIDNAPPING NO NEW DEVELOPMENTS NO CONTACTS

MADE FOLLOWING UP=

VETTERLI.

NOV 13 1933 6

RECORDED

- Mr. Nathan
- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. Clegg
- Mr. Edwards
- Mr. Egan
- Mr. Hughes
- Mr. Quinn
- Mr. Lester
- Mr. Ladd

ms

Room 32

7-375-5
NOV 19 1933 AM

WESTERN UNION GIFT ORDERS ARE APPROPRIATE GIFTS FOR ALL OCCASIONS

THE COMPANY WILL APPRECIATE SUGGESTIONS FROM ITS PATRONS CONCERNING ITS SERVICE

CLASS OF SERVICE

This is a full-rate Telegram or Cablegram unless its deferred character is indicated by a suitable sign above or preceding the address.

WESTERN UNION

A. B. WHITE
PRESIDENT

NEWCOMB CARLTON
CHIEF OF THE BOARD

J. C. WELLES
VICE PRESIDENT

SIGNS

DL = Day Letter
NLT = Night Letter
NL = Night Letter
LC = Deferred Cable
MLT = Cable Night Letter
SL = Sunday Letter

The time shown in the date line is full-rate telegram and day letters, and the time of receipt of messages is shown in all messages, in STANDARD TIME.

Received at 708 14th St., N. W. Washington, D. C.

553 NOV 13 AM 5 35

FA10 30 NM COLLECT GOVT=SANJOSE CALIF 12

DIRECTOR DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION=
US DEPT OF JUSTICE WASH DC=

MINUTES IN TRANSIT	
TELEGRAMS	CABLES

CONROY ANDERSEN VETTERLIN REGISTERED STCLAIRE HOTEL SANJOSE
STOP NO NEW MATERIAL DEVELOPMENTS STOP NO CONTACT HAS BEEN
MADE YET FOLLOWING UP EVERY CONCEIVABLE LEAD WILL KEEP YOU
POSTED TELEGRAPHICALLY=

VETTERLIN.

RECORDED

NOV 14 1933

7-375-6
NOV 13
11/17/33

Mr. Nathan	
Mr. Tolson	
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Glavin	
Mr. Ladd	
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tracy	
Mr. Carson	
Mr. Egan	
Mr. Gurnea	
Mr. Harbo	
Mr. Hendon	
Mr. Jones	
Mr. Lester	
Mr. Quinn	
Mr. Nease	
Mr. Gandy	

WESTERN UNION GIFT ORDERS ARE APPROPRIATE GIFTS FOR ALL OCCASIONS

THE COMPANY WILL APPRECIATE SUGGESTIONS FROM ITS PATRONS CONCERNING ITS SERVICE

CLASS OF SERVICE

This is a full-rate Telegram or Cablegram unless its deferred character is indicated by a suitable sign above or preceding the address.

WESTERN UNION

R. B. WHITE
President

WILLIAM C. CANTON
Chairman of the Board

J. G. WILSON
Vice President

SIGNS

DL = Day Letter
NM = Night Message
NL = Night Letter
LC = Deferred Cable
NLT = Cable Night Letter
Ship Radiogram

The filing time as shown in the date line on full-rate telegrams and day letters, and the time of receipt at destination on letters and day messages, is STANDARD TIME.

Received at 708 14th St., N. W. Washington, D. C.

AB137 15-SAN FRANCISCO CALIF 12 345P

DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE WASHDC

CONROY AND ANDERSON ARRIVED TWO PM AND LEFT FOR SANJOSE

CALIFORNIA WILL ADVISE ADDRESS LATER

VETTERLI.

Mr. Nathan
Mr. Fisher
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Edwards
Mr. Egan
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Quinn
Mr. Lester
Mr. Ladd

RECORDED

INDEXED

NOV 14 1933

7-375-7
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION
RECEIVED
NOV 14 1933

WESTERN UNION GIFT ORDERS SOLVE THE PERPLEXING QUESTION OF WHAT TO GIVE

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

VM:15

Division of Investigation

U. S. Department of Justice

Washington, D. C.

November 11, 1933.

Mr. Nathan	_____
Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Clegg	_____
Mr. Glavin	_____
Mr. Ladd	_____
Mr. Nichols	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Tracy	_____
Mr. Carson	_____
Mr. Egan	_____
Mr. Gurnea	_____
Mr. Harbo	_____
Mr. Hendon	_____
Mr. Lester	_____
Mr. Quinn	_____
Mr. Nease	_____
Mr. Gandy	_____

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR.

With reference to the attached telegram, after our conversation this morning I called Vetterli on the telephone. He was at San Jose at the time preparing to depart for San Francisco. He stated that he felt that everything possible had been done that could be done at this stage of the proceedings. It appears that the boy disappeared from San Jose on Thursday night and two telephone calls came in to the family from San Francisco demanding that \$10,000.00 be paid but since Thursday night there has been absolutely no call from anyone. Vetterli stated that he has an Agent stationed in the Hart home receiving all telephone calls; that he has another Agent outside prepared to trace calls; that he has arranged to trace the calls if received. He stated that he has interviewed all of the members of the family and friends and has made arrangements with all of them to notify him immediately of any word received, either by telephone, telegraph, mail or otherwise.

He stated that last night after sending this telegram there had been discovered by the watchman of the docks the wallet of young Hart. This was discovered on the dock from which the nightly boat to Los Angeles departs. From indications it must have been dropped immediately prior to the departure of the boat. It was found shortly after the departure. Vetterli stated he had called Dunn at Los Angeles and the Frisco Police, who had been first notified on the finding of this wallet, had called the Los Angeles Police so that the docks at Los Angeles will be thoroughly covered this morning. The boat is due to arrive about 9:30 Coast time and Vetterli will advise us of the result of the search of the boat upon its arrival. I suggested to him the possibility of obtaining prints from the wallet. He stated he had already taken that matter up with Montgomery at San Francisco, who stated that the driver's license and other identifying data were in the wallet, but no money.

I inquired of him with reference to the police cooperation. He stated that the police cooperation was 100%. I inquired whether he had a free hand. He stated "yes" he had, but, of course, was working in cooperation with the police, and, as a matter of fact, they had given him the first information concerning the kidnaping and he felt that they were withholding absolutely no information from him. In fact they were in close touch with him every minute.

RECORDED

7-375-8

NOV 14 1933

I asked him about possible assistance. He said he would appreciate assistance later on but he felt that at the present time there would not be much to do until either some further message is received or the boy is returned, at which time he would then appreciate the assistance of some experienced Agent and while he would welcome assistance at the present time he did not feel that the Division would be justified because of the lack of any definite information and, further, because there was still the possibility of there being a hoax. He said, of course, he was not assuming that it is a hoax but he was proceeding vigorously with the investigation on the assumption that there had been a kidnapping, but he had a feeling that possibly it might not be a kidnapping, but that information may be received throughout the day or any time now which will indicate to them just what the facts are.

In view of this information from Vetterli I did not call Agent Conroy but felt it would be better to wait at least until we had heard concerning the boat arrival at Los Angeles. I instructed Vetterli to telegraph immediately, or, if the boy was discovered, to call advising us of that fact.

Respectfully,

M. J. Conroy

CLASS OF SERVICE DESIRED	
DOMESTIC	CABLE
TELEGRAM	FULL RATE
DAY LETTER	DEFERRED
NIGHT MESSAGE	NIGHT LETTER
LETTER	DEAR END LETTER

Patrons should check class of service desired. International messages will be transmitted on a full-rate basis.

WESTERN UNION

CHECK
ACCTG INTRNL
TIME FILED

Send the following message, subject to the terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to

KANSAS CITY MISSOURI Nov. 11, 1933. 6pm

R E VETTERLI
DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
318 KEMPES BUILDING
SAN FRANCISCO CALIFORNIA

FOR INSTRUCTIONS ANDERSEN AND I ARRIVING SAN FRANCISCO ONE THIRTY PM TOMORROW VIA
PLANE

CC-Division

CONROY

NOV 14 1933

7-375

NOV 13 1933

FILE

WESTERN UNION MESSENGERS ARE AVAILABLE FOR THE DELIVERY OF NOTES AND PACKAGES

Postal Telegraph

INTERNATIONAL SYSTEM



Mr. Nathan	
Mr. Tolson	
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Glavin	
Mr. Ladd	
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tracy	
Mr. Carson	
Mr. Egan	
Mr. Gurnea	
Mr. Harbo	
Mr. Hendon	
Mr. Jones	
Mr. Quinn	
Mr. Lester	
Mr. Locke	

NA69 45 GOVT NL COLLECT

SANJOSE CALIF 13

DIRECTOR DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION

U S DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE WASHN DC

DEVELOPMENTS TODAY INDICATE BROOKE HART KIDNAPPED BY FIVE MEN DRIVING

LARGE BLACK SEDAN BEARING CALIFORNIA LICENSE STOP NO CONTACT BETWEEN

FAMILY AND KIDNAPPERS YET STOP HART FAMILY TONIGHT ISSUED NEWSPAPER

APPEAL TO KIDNAPPERS TO CONTACT FAMILY DIRECTLY OR THRU

INTERMEDIARIES PROMISING NO OUTSIDE INTERFERENCE

VETTERLI.

RECORDED

NOV 14 1933

7-375-9

NOV 14 1933

FILE

1933 NOV 14

Mr. Nathan

Mr. Tolson

Mr. Clegg

Mr. Glavin

Mr. Ladd

Mr. Nichols

Mr. Rosen

Mr. Tracy

Mr. Carson

Mr. Egan

Mr. Gurnea

Mr. Harbo

Mr. Hendon

Mr. Jones

Mr. Quinn

Mr. Lester

Mr. Locke

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

Division of Investigation

U. S. Department of Justice

Washington, D. C.

November 12, 1933.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

Mr. Nathan	_____
Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Clegg	_____
Mr. Glavin	_____
Mr. Ladd	_____
Mr. Nichols	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Tracy	_____
Mr. Carson	_____
Mr. Egan	_____
Mr. Gurnea	_____
Mr. Hendon	_____
Mr. Lester	_____
Mr. Quinn	_____
Mr. Nease	_____
Mr. Gandy	_____

The following is a transcript of the telephone conversation between Mr. Hughes and Mr. Vetterli this morning:

Mr. Hughes asked Mr. Vetterli if there were any further developments out there. Mr. Vetterli said that nothing has happened as yet. Mr. Hughes mentioned two newspaper articles saying that two notes had been received by the family. Mr. Vetterli said that that was only newspaper talk.

NOV 13 1933

Mr. Hughes advised Mr. Vetterli that Agents Conroy and Anderson were on their way out there and will arrive today about 1:35PM by plane. Mr. Hughes told Mr. Vetterli to advise the Division if he needed any more help and that Mr. Dunn would also help out if necessary.

Mr. Vetterli said that he has talked to everybody there, check his calls, check the Western Union, and all of his friends. The only thing that they have are the two telephone calls from San Francisco. Mr. Vetterli mentioned the fact that when they call, they talk to the sister of the victim without asking for the father. There has been no word of communication since three hours after his disappearance on Thursday night. Mr. Hughes asked if inquiries had been made along the waterfront. Mr. Vetterli said that the wallet was found by the side of an old oil barge and Agent Montgomery was checking into this but no developments.

Mr. Hughes said that Agent Philbrick reported that they were having trouble with the Hearst Newspapers. Mr. Vetterli said that they weren't having any trouble but the whole thing is that they have the tip on the wallet and expect to get a few dollars out of it. Mr. Vetterli said that the Chief of Detectives was giving him all of the necessary information.

Mr. Hughes told Mr. Vetterli not to forget the daily night letter and send it anyway, even though there are no new developments in the case.

Mr. Hughes asked Mr. Vetterli if the finder of the wallet had been questioned. Mr. Vetterli said that he was supposed to have been questioned by Montgomery or one of the boys yesterday.

The situation at San Jose is well covered. Ramsey is there and the father is wonderful to them. The deputy sheriff is also there and is considered a good man by Mr. Vetterli. Mr. Hughes suggested that one of the other boys be sent down on the arrival of Anderson.

Respectfully,

R. L. Quinn

Postal Telegraph

THE INTERNATIONAL SYSTEM

Commercial
Cables



Radio

Mackay

Radio

Mr. Nathan	
Mr. Tolson	
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Glavin	
Mr. Ladd	
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tracy	
Mr. Egan	
Mr. Gurnea	
Mr. Harbo	
Mr. Hendon	
Mr. Jones	
Mr. Quinn	
Mr. Nease	
Mr. Gandy	

CHSA 48 NL COLLECT GOVT

SANJOSE CALIF 14

DIRECTOR DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION

U S DEPT OF JUSTICE WASHN DC

NEWSPAPERS THIS MORNING PUBLISHED APPEAL TO KIDNAPPERS FROM HART
FAMILY FOR RETURN SON BROOKE STOP CLOSE VIGILANCE HART HOME
REMOVED IN KEEPING WISHES FAMILY STOP TWO PERSONS ONE BY
TELEPHONE ONE THROUGH INTERMEDIARY MADE CONTACT TODAY BUT NO
ASSURANCE RECEIVED FROM EITHER THAT THEY WERE BONA FIDE
VETTERLI.

RECORDED

NOV 15 1933

7-375-11

NOV 15 1933

NOV 15 AM 4 42

Mr. Nathan
Mr. Tolson
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Egan
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Jones
Mr. Quinn
Mr. Nease
Mr. Gandy

CLASS OF SERVICE DESIRED	
CLASS OF SERVICE	CABLE
DAY LETTER	FULL RATE
NIGHT LETTER	DELETED
DAY MESSAGE	DELETED
NIGHT MESSAGE	DELETED
DAY LETTER	DELETED
NIGHT LETTER	DELETED

Persons should check class of service desired. Alternative message will be transmitted as a full-rate communication.

WESTERN UNION

CHECK
7m
ACCT. NO.
TIME PAID

Send the following message, subject to the terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to

D. E. VETTERLI
DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
516 HIGGS BUILDING
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA
NOV 10, 1933

b7c

RECORD REPT KIDNAPING LIONEL LEON STANLEY KIRBY

750 YEARS SEVERAL

YEARS AGO AND MET VICTIM AND EUSTACE BIRNBAUM IN

APARTMENT THAT TIME STOP HAS

OR VICTIM SINCE AND HAS NO INFORMATION

RESEARCHERS STOP BIRNBAUM

COMMENCED WITH JEWELRY CONCESSION FROM BIRNBAUM AND BORN SEVEN SEVENTEEN MARKET

STREET SAN FRANCISCO STOP

STOP ENDEAVORING LOCATE CRIMINAL RECORD

LONG BEACH

7-375
DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION
NOV 13 1933
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FILE

CHARGE, Gov. Sato, Off. Div.
Division of Investigation
U. S. Department of Justice

4:10 PM

LCIT

cc: Division

WESTERN UNION GIFT ORDERS AND APPROPRIATE GIFTS FOR ALL OCCASIONS

Postal Telegraph

THE INTERNATIONAL SYSTEM

Commercial
Cables



All America
Cables

Maritime

Radio

This is a full rate Telegram, Cablegram or Radiogram unless otherwise indicated by the symbol in the direction of the message.	
Day	Night
Day	Night
Day	Night
Day	Night
Day	Night
Day	Night
Day	Night
Day	Night
Day	Night

NA713 15 GOVT COLLECT

GA SANFRANCISCO CALIF 16 351P

DIRECTOR DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION 070-

US DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE WASHINGTON DC

PART KIDNAPING SUBJECT JOHN HOLMES ALSO CONFESSES STOP BODY OF

VICTIM NOT YET FOUND

MONTGOMERY ACTING.

NOV 16 PM 7 00

Mr. Nathan
Mr. Tolson
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Jones
Mr. Quinn
Mr. Nease
Mr. Lester
Mr. Gandy



RECORDED
&
INDEXED

NOV 17 1933

7-375-12	
DIVISION	INVESTIGATION
NOV 17 1933	

JPC

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

Division of Investigation

U. S. Department of Justice

Washington, D. C.

November 15, 1933

Mr. Nathan	
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Glavin	
Mr. Ladd	
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tracy	
Mr. Carson	
Mr. Egan	
Mr. Gurnea	
Mr. Hendon	
Mr. Jones	
Mr. Mumford	
Mr. Quinn	
Mr. Nease	
Miss Gandy	

On the evening of November 9, 1933, Mr. Brooks Hart, age 24, a graduate of the University of Santa Clara, and a son and partner of Alexander C. Hart, one of San Jose, California's wealthiest merchants, left their department store at San Jose driving a Studebaker President Eight. His failure to arrive at home on schedule caused his family to become uneasy, and at about ten o'clock two telephone calls were received from San Francisco advising that their son, Brooks Hart, was being held and would be released upon the payment of \$40,000.

The San Francisco Office of the Division immediately began an investigation and contacted Mr. Alexander Hart, who welcomed their assistance in the case, and an Agent and a Deputy Sheriff were stationed in the Hart home to receive and trace telephone calls should any be received. The car driven by Brooks Hart was found, soon after his disappearance, abandoned about seven miles from San Jose.

No further communications were received by the Hart family and on November 14th the family issued a newspaper appeal to the kidnappers to contact the family directly or through intermediaries, and promised that the contacts made by the kidnappers would not be interfered with by outside sources. As a result of this appeal, and in compliance with the wishes of the family, the Agent stationed in the Hart home was removed.

On November 15th two persons contacted the Hart family, one by telephone and one through an intermediary, but gave no assurance that they were representing the kidnappers. On November 19, 1933 a vallet belonging to the victim was found by a watchman on the docks at San Francisco, from which the night boat to Los Angeles departs. The boat upon its arrival at Los Angeles was thoroughly searched, but no evidence was found to indicate that Mr. Hart had been taken aboard or that the kidnappers were on this boat.

In addition to the above, Agents of the Division, of course, interviewed all of the known relatives and friends of Mr. Hart in an effort to establish contacts and to obtain all information possible concerning Mr. Hart's habits and likely suspects.

RECORDED

Respectfully,

NOV 17 1933

SP. Cawley
Cawley

NOV 17 1933

7-375-13

JES:RCB

November 16, 1933.

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. WILLIAM STANLEY,
The Assistant to the Attorney General.

As of possible interest to you,
I am transmitting herewith a copy of a
memorandum which I have just directed to
the Attorney General, concerning the
kidnaping and murder of Mr. Brooks Hart
at San Jose, California.

Very truly yours,

Director.

Incl.

RECEIVED SECTION

NOV 16 1933

RECORDED

INDEXED

NOV 18 1933

W
JER:ECB

November 16, 1933.

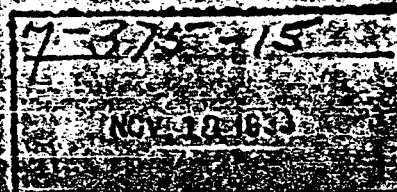
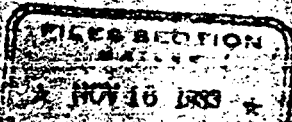
MEMORANDUM FOR MR. GATES

is of possible interest to you,
I am transmitting herewith a copy of a
memorandum which I have just directed to
the Attorney General, concerning the kid-
naping and murder of Mr. Brooks Hart at
San Jose, California.

Very truly yours,

Director.

Incl.
Wm
G.D.
m



SIB:ECB

November 16, 1933.

STATEMENT OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

On the evening of November 9, 1933, Mr. Brooks Hart, age 23, a graduate of the University of Santa Clara and a son and partner of Alexander J. Hart, one of San Jose's wealthiest merchants, was kidnaped at about 6:30 p.m., while on his way home from the department store operated by his father and himself. His failure to arrive at home on schedule time caused his family to become uneasy, and about 10:00 p.m., two telephone calls were received from San Francisco at his home, advising that the son, Brooks Hart, was being held and would be released upon payment of \$10,000 ransom.

The San Francisco Office of the Division of Investigation of the U. S. Department of Justice, together with the local police of San Francisco, San Jose, and the sheriff of San Jose immediately initiated an investigation. The authorities had the fullest cooperation and assistance of the victim's father. I immediately ordered a special squad of Agents to proceed to San Francisco in order to arrest the group of Agents we have regularly stationed there, selecting men especially trained in the handling of kidnaping cases. Between November 9 and November 15, several letters and telephone calls were received from the kidnapers, and last evening a phone call was received at the residence of Mr. Alexander J. Hart, and through investigative activities of the Agents of this Division, together with the sheriff of San Jose, California, Harold T. Thurmond, 28 years of age, was taken into custody at 7:30 p.m. A thorough interrogation of Thurmond by the Agents of this Division brought about a full confession, involving one John H. Holmes, 29 years of age, who was taken into custody at a hotel in San Jose, California. The confession of Thurmond disclosed that Holmes and Thurmond kidnaped Mr. Brooks Hart on the evening of November 9 about 6:30 p.m. and drove to the San Mateo bridge. There they killed Hart and bound his arms with wire, and attaching some bricks to the body, threw the body into San Mateo Bay. Holmes and Thurmond then proceeded to write the letters and to act through the telephone calls, demanding \$10,000 ransom.

Holmes and Thurmond have been removed from San Jose to San Francisco in order to insure safe keeping by reason of the possible arousing of public opinion against them for their act of murder.

While this case is a Federal case in that the mails were used, in view of the very serious charge of murder which will be lodged against them, it is contemplated that the case will be turned over to State authorities for prosecution.

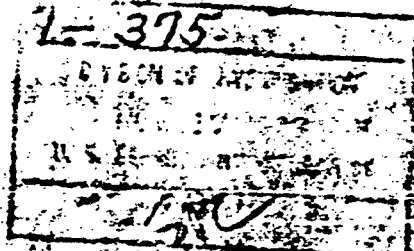
The Chief of Police of San Jose, Mr. J. F. Kitch, the sheriff of San Jose, Mr. [Name], and the Chief of Police of San Francisco, Mr. [Name], have furnished significant information and cooperation to the Federal authorities in this matter. The [Name] of the [Name] Office, Mr. [Name], and the [Name] of the [Name] Office, the [Name] to San Francisco to [Name] Mr. [Name], directed the details of this investigation at San Jose. These Agents in [Name] in [Name] consultation with the office at Washington through the [Name] [Name].

411 U. S. Court House
Portland, Oregon

November 13, 1933

Special Agent in Charge
Division of Investigation
U. S. Department of Justice
315 Bowes Building
San Francisco, California

Re: Unknown subjects
Brook Hart (Victim)
Kidnaping



Dear Sir:

This will contain telephone conversation of the subject
signed to your office today in which I furnished certain information
pertaining to El Santa, and the possibility that he might be in-
volved in the kidnaping of the victim, California. In my telephone
conversation I talked with Special Agent J. S. Montgomery and advised
him that I had had previous information that El Santa, who is usually
mentioned in the United States, might be involved in the
latest case of the victim.

For your information, El Santa was seen in Portland,
Oregon, approximately two weeks ago by a brother-in-law of the
victim who reported the fact to the Portland Police Department and to
the undersigned. He stated that he met El Santa on one of the police
down town in Portland in Portland at which time El Santa
was wearing a dark brown suit and that his hair was dyed a dark
brown color. This brother-in-law stated that otherwise El Santa
answered the description of the victim. He further stated that
Seattle Police Department photograph of El Santa was a good
likeness of the victim with the exception that he had a mustache and
dark brown hair. For your information I am enclosing a copy of
Seattle P.D. photograph of El Santa.

with him for a short time and followed him approximately one block
where he observed El Santa enter a large dark blue sedan which he
believed to be a Buick. He further stated that he believed
that the car was a Buick and that he believed
to be El Santa. He could not describe the license number
of this car.

Further information was furnished by representatives of the American Express Company that Ed Bantz is reported to have been active in cashing fictitious checks in London, Ontario, Canada and that Ed Bantz was driving a car bearing Illinois license #685113 or #885133; that he also used Illinois license #736622. It is not clear from the information available in Portland as to the exact time Ed Bantz was reported to have been active in Ontario, Canada, but it is presumed that it was prior to the date Ed Bantz was reported seen in Portland about three weeks ago.

In view of the alleged former association of Ed Bantz with Albert Bates and George Kelly, subjects in the Unsub's kidnapping case, and the reported presence of Bantz on the west coast at this time, it is the thought of the undersigned that it would be worth while to keep him in mind in your investigation of the Unsub's kidnapping at San Jose. It is altogether logical that Ed Bantz after having been seen in Portland approximately three weeks ago proceeded to California and I suggested to Special Agent Montgomery that a general police broadcast be issued to pick up any persons driving a car bearing either of the two Illinois license plates noted above and cause a check-up to be made at the California state automobile registration bureau to determine if there is a record of a non-resident permit having been issued for either of these licenses within the past few weeks.

From information available here a Mr. Verna, district manager of the American Express Company, San Francisco, has full information relative to the alleged presence of Ed Bantz in Ontario and concerning the two Illinois license plates noted above. It would suggest that you contact him as well as the chief special agent of the Railway Express Agency at San Francisco who, I understand, has considerable information concerning the activities of the Unsub.

Of further possible interest, I have this date received a memorandum from Special Agent E. E. Bunting who is stationed at Seattle, Washington, advising that Pauline Bantz, alias Pauline King, sister of the Unsub's brother, had been observed in passing this week point in California and that she is now residing at the Flinn Hotel, Seattle. Bunting is going to be making a little investigation with Pauline Bantz, or Pauline King, to determine if possible her whereabouts during recent years. In particular, he is to determine if she is in contact with the Unsub or the Unsub's brother in California.

Mr. Nathan
Mr. Tolson
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Quinn
Mr. Lester
Mr. Leone

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

SAFARI PHOTOGRAPHY COURSE

FILE NO.

DATE WHEN MADE
11/16/23

11/19-15/83

SECRET
765241-15

ITM

WJW:WJW SUBJECTS:
BROCK L. HART - T-101.

100-100000-100000

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

[illegible]

50-16

7. 7. 2005, 3.01

[illegible][illegible]

that he had made arrangements with the Telephone Manager, Mann, to have all calls into the Hart residence traced; that he understood that the boy's car had been found abandoned on the Milpitas Road by the Sheriff, with the lights still burning, and no evidences of violence; that as far as he, Chief Black, knew, Brooks Hart was a fine type of character, with a good reputation, and no bad associates, and it was his opinion that he was not involved in gambling difficulties; that following this investigation he had decided to wait for daylight before proceeding further.

Inquiry at the office of Sheriff William F. Hall, developed that the Sheriff and Deputy Sheriff, Felix Cordroy, and Constable Larry Harris, had gone in search of the car of Brooks Hart in response to a call received from one Belshaw, Steward of the San Jose County Club, located some eight miles from San Jose, on the above noted road; that the car had been discovered by this man abandoned on this road near his home, where he, Belshaw, is reported to have summed that the car was one containing a betting party when he had first observed it with the lights burning, later learning that no one was in the car, and then reporting it to the Sheriff; that the Sheriff would cover the car completely for fingerprints and other evidences.

Agent went at once to the Hart residence, 1715 The Alameda, in San Jose, California, arriving at about 2:30 a.m. At that time the following persons were present: Alex J. Hart, father of Brooks Hart; Nettie H. Hart, mother; Virginia Hart, 21, sister; Alanna Hart, 18, sister; H. Gosaling, Manager of Hart's Department Store; Louis Rossi, an assistant Manager of the store; Ray Barnish, son-in-law of Hart, and husband of Jeanette Barnish, an adopted daughter; Mrs. Frederick Barnish; and Bill Mason, reporter for the San Francisco Examiner, which reporter was reported to have been the one who had reported the car abandoned on the Milpitas Road.

Alex J. Hart, father, advised by this time from investigation that his son, Brooks, was a young man who had been taken into custody while working as a partner and Vice-President on September 17, 1933, following his graduation from the University of Santa Clara, Santa Clara, California; that Brooks had been at the store each business day since the above date, usually leaving about six in the evening for home; that Brooks had a 1932 President Model, Buick Sport Roadster, California 1932 license number bearing the insignia of the California Automobile Association, and which was of a distinctive light shade of green with yellow wire wheels, and two spare wheels on the fenders; that Brooks usually parked this car in a working shop at night which was being cleared from filling station and garage at the corner of First and Market Streets, directly across from street, from the store; that throughout the afternoon Brooks had pursued his regular duties at their store, working as usual, and that he had no other engagements.

It was further ascertained that Brooks had been here, that he had an appointment at the St. Claire Hotel at 8:00 p.m. on this day; that Brooks usually attended a public speaking class at the Palace Hotel on Thursday evenings with his friend, Charles M. Hart, who had been

understood had called at about 5:00 p.m., and was a date with Brooks to meet him, O'Brien, at the store about 5:30 p.m. That about 5:40 p.m., O'Brien had not yet appeared to meet Brooks, and that he and Alcece had talked with Brooks at this time, at the store, and it had been agreed that Brooks would go to the parking lot above noted, secure his car, and then return to the back entrance of the store on Lightstone Avenue, which is a narrow alleyway, and pick Alcece and himself up, taking Alcece home, and Mr. Hart, Sr., to his appointment at the St. Claire Club, located at the corner of 2nd and St. James Streets; that in accordance with this plan Brooks left the store just a few minutes before 6:00 p.m., for the parking lot; that they waited until a few minutes after six, and Brooks not appearing, Mr. Alex J. Hart, supposed that he had been delayed in some way, or had possibly gone down to get O'Brien, and he had had an accident, and that, inasmuch as he was late for his appointment, he got Jack Foley, store employee, to drive him to the St. Claire Club; that Alcece secured a ride home with Mrs. H. S. Fowler, who is his wife's sister, and also an employee of the store.

Mr. Hart continued that he had not seen, nor heard from his son since he had left the store just before 6:00 p.m., but that he had been informed that one Lloyd Mitchell, an employee of the store, saw Brooks's car shortly after 6:00 p.m., going down Lightstone Avenue. Mr. Hart stated that the ransom telephone call had been received at the house by Billy Morris, manager who had been at the house at the time, and his daughter, Miriam Hart; that he, himself, had gotten to an extension of the telephone, and listened in to the end of the conversation, hearing however no connected story, but merely the words, "\$40,000 ransom, or you will never see your son again."

Billy Morris, 1156 Hancock Avenue, stated on interview that he had come to the Hart home about 9:00 p.m. on this evening in question, and at about 100 p.m. he had been near the telephone when it had rung, and had answered; that a voice had inquired for Mr. Hart; that then before he had an opportunity to say a word, the voice said: "This is your son that you missed." He stated that, then Mr. Morris, asked if this were Brooks, and the voice asked again if he were Mr. Hart; that Mr. Morris, replied that he was not, and that then he called Mr. Hart, but before Mr. Hart got to the telephone, Miriam Hart answered the phone by another extension, and that then Mr. Hart came and took his position at the extension. Mr. Morris was on the phone but had no further information regarding the call.

Miriam Hart advised that she took up the receiver, and the voice asked when she said "Hello" - "Is this Miriam?" that she said "Yes" and the voice then asked "Is your brother coming?" and she replied that he was, and asked if he was all right; that the voice then said "We have your brother for \$40,000 ransom. Your brother is safe, but if you notify the police you will never see him again." That she then asked if Brooks was hurt, and the voice replied that he was not, but that they must have \$40,000 ransom for his return, and that she would receive another communication on the following day, and then hung up. She stated that she heard the voice and that it was a very cultured, and she stated that it was not hurried, and that she was not at all intimidated, that the voice was very calm.

coming from a distance. It should be stated that Morris answered the phone on the second floor extension of the phone, and Morris answered it on the 12th floor stairs.

Edward Higgins, Assistant Cashier of the First National Bank, checked the bank records, and advised that no checks whatsoever had been drawn against Brooke's bank account during the month of November; that the average balance in the account over a five year period had been \$200; that the present balance was \$184.50; that on November 1st the balance had been \$133.00, but the account had been augmented by a deposit of \$55 on November 8th. A. J. Hart states this is the only account carried by his son, either commercial or savings.

Check of the Western Union and Postal Telegraph Companies revealed no wires received or sent out by Brooke during the period immediately preceding his disappearance. Telephone Company records revealed no long distance calls placed at the home in the period from November 1, 1933.

The following investigation is reported by the writer,
Special Agent in Charge R. E. Vetrilli:

On the night of Thursday, November 9, 1933, about midnight Agent Vetterli received a long distance telephone call from Chief of Black at San Jose, California, outlining the circumstances of the disappearance of Brooke L. Hart, as outlined above by Special Agent Ramsey. Chief Black requested our assistance. He stated that he had been in contact with the telephone company in San Francisco, and ascertained that at 8:30 P.M., on the 9th of November, an effort was made to complete a long distance call from San Francisco to the residence of Mrs. A. J. Hart, that this call had been placed through from Market 6485, at San Francisco, which is an unlisted telephone, in the name of Dan Dwyer, 1022 Market Street, San Francisco, that the second call was completed, and had been checked, and was from a pay station located in the Whitecomb Hotel, 1244 Market Street, San Francisco, telephone number Market 8587. Chief Black outlined the telephone conversation demanding the \$40,000 ransom.

I immediately contacted Mr. J. Edgar Hoover, who is in charge of the Bureau of Investigation, Police Department, and was at home at midnight immediately after the call from Officer Riley. Lieutenant Riley made arrangements to look out all ways in and out of the garage, and place guards at all the barriers. However, at about 1:30 a.m., the morning of November 10th, a Black called from San Jose, and advised the car of the Victim had been located about seven miles from San Jose about one with the lights on, on the State Road, about one and one-half miles east of Milpitas, might have been seen there at 11 p.m., the night of the kidnapping, but had not been reported until late that night. As soon as the Black advised of the location of the car, the guards at the garage and road were withdrawn.

However, in conjunction with Captain of Detectives Dallas, San Francisco Police Department, it was arranged that any long distance calls for the Hart residence at San Jose would be telephoned in on a private wire. In the meantime, arrangements were made to have all long distance calls delayed as long as possible, the operator listening in, and that he be advised immediately of any call at San Francisco, and squad cars with radio phones were made available. Two squad cars were placed at rest in the neighborhood from which the two calls had been placed.

I then telephoned Special Agent W. R. Ramsey at San Jose, to get in touch with Chief Black at San Jose, California, at once, and remain on this case, and Special Agent Ramsey has been stationed at the Hart home ever since, and still remains there on duty, awaiting further developments. In view of the fact that the call from San Deyor's place, and from the Whitcomb Hotel, at San Francisco, was not traced until about two hours after the calls had been made, no effort was made to check these places the night of November 9th, it appearing that altogether too long a time had elapsed from the time of the placing of these calls.

This Agent remained on duty at Police Headquarters all night, in view of the fact that it was thought probable a further contact would be made, and was on duty at the same place all day November 10th. While at Police Headquarters on November 10th, one Maurice Birnbaum, of 833 Market Street, came to the office, and stated he was a good friend of Victim Hart; that he resides at 2101 Pacific Avenue, San Francisco. He informed this Agent there was a Jack Reid, of whom Hart was afraid; that he and Hart had met Reid several years ago in a pick-up acquaintance at San Diego, where Birnbaum and Victim had gone for a visit. They had not known Reid previous thereto.

Birnbaum advised Reid had followed the Victim around for the past few years, and after close questioning, intimated that Reid, Birnbaum, and possibly the Victim, had possibly indulged in some degenerate parties. However, this took place several years ago. Birnbaum also stated that Reid had come to San Jose, and had spent a night or two at the home of Victim Brooke L. Hart, a year or two ago. He advised he found Reid could be located through Lionel Davis, a friend of Victim's, whose father was the proprietor of a jewelry store on Pine Street at Long Beach, California.

This date was immediately telephoned to the Los Angeles office. On the next morning, there, according to information received, Reid has been picked up, and thoroughly questioned, but has been able to account for his time for the past few months, and apparently is not involved in this case.

According to information placed telephonically,
Reid is a sex pervert.

The informant Alrabum could furnish no other information of value. He stated that Brooke L. Hart was temperate in everything he did; did not drink to excess, did not gamble over fifty cents or so at a time, and did not abuse women. He offered the name of Jack Johnson, at the United Parcel Service Company at Oakland, California, as a possible source of information. He also stated one Billy Morris, cousin of the Victim, at San Jose, might have some information.

Through the "San Francisco Examiner" it was ascertained that one Art Dunn, 744 Howard Street, San Francisco, had stated there was to be a "snatch" at San Jose, California, on November 8th. Two Police Inspectors and Special Agent Philbrick checked up on this angle, but the information was unfounded, and no such statement in fact was made.

Appropriate inquiries were made, in conjunction with Police Officers, at the Wisconsin Hotel, where it was ascertained the pay phone is in the lobby around the corner from the cigar stand; that anyone could use this phone. The man at the cigar stand was interviewed, and he advised he had not noticed anything unusual. He could not recall any suspicious characters in the lobby of the hotel that evening about the time the call was placed.

Appropriate inquiries were also made by Special Agent Philbrick and the Police at the business place of Dan Dwyer, but no situation existed there.

It was ascertained that one Lillian Hale, of 752 Howard Street, might be involved in this case, because she had purchased some furniture at Hart's Department Store, San Jose, sometime ago, and had failed to pay for it, and accordingly Hart had sued her in Court in San Francisco, and had obtained a judgment; and Mrs. Hale had been ordered to pay for it. Interestingly, the residence of Mrs. Hale was gone through thoroughly by Special Agent Philbrick, and two Police Inspectors, with a result.

One Richard Rogers, residing at 1000 Broadway, San Francisco, was a member of the young office group in San Francisco, and was known to be a friend of Victim Brooke L. Hart, was interviewed, and he stated he had seen Hart Sunday night, the night of November 8th, when they accompanied by a young lady, and went to a football game in the city, and then to Mountain View to eat dinner. He could offer no information of value, informed only that Victim was a fine young man, and could not offer any information for his disappearance. He stated Victim was temperate and moderate, and was of an extremely affable and tender disposition.

It was also rumored that one A. S. Harducci, a private detective at 234 North 6th Street, San Jose, might have some information. Accordingly, I interviewed him at San Jose, Saturday, the 11th, and he had nothing to offer.

There were no developments at San Francisco on Friday the 10th, and after verifying again the telephone situation with respect to long distance calls, this Agent went to San Jose, and ascertained from Special Agent Ramsey there had been no developments there. Immediately upon arrival, a consultation was held with Chief of Police Black, and Sheriff Emig who advised that they had interviewed everyone in this vicinity, and Sheriff Emig stated that a thorough search had been made of all the hills in the vicinity of San Jose, and particularly that portion of the country where the car had been located, but they had been unable to find anyone to date that had any information, there being no indication that anyone had seen Victim forced into a car, or kidnaped, or driven off.

They advised, however, that Bert had been out to the place called "Downing Ranch" a number of days ago, and while there young Manning had been killed when a horse fell on him when he was attempting to ride a horse. Since that time Victim had been melancholy, moody, and blue. Inquiries by Sheriff Emig at the Downing Ranch revealed that Victim had not been seen or heard from recently.

Charles O'Brien, 17, 140 South 14th Street, San Jose, California, is the closest personal friend of Victim. He stated that he had received a telephone call from Victim about 8 p.m., November 9th, and that they always went to a public speaking class Thursday nights at 8 p.m., that is, a call with Victim at 8 p.m., the latter told him to come over to Bert's store at 5:30, that they would both take Victim's sister, Alice, home with them to sleep together. He stated that the Victim talked rather anxiously.

Mr. O'Brien stated he started about 5:45 or thereabouts and went to the Bert's store, and was told by Bert and the Victim had left the store. O'Brien estimated he arrived at the store at 6 p.m. He is not of course positive of the exact time. He stated he had seen Victim at that time, and the Victim did not show up at class. He stated he did not see Victim or hear from him for some time. He stated that Bert was moderate in everything he did, did not drink to excess, was very conservative in his spending, and did not mess with women.

O'Brien has been interviewed by this Agent, and Agents Conroy and Harrison, on the subsequent occasions, and while he could furnish general information, he cannot furnish any information which might lead to possible kidnapping or for the whereabouts of Victim.

It was rumored that one Mrs. Leone Van Orsdale, 585 Miller Street, Santa Clara, California, and an employee of the Hart Store, had seen Brooke Hart about fifteen blocks from the store, going out towards the point where the car was abandoned about 6:30 p.m., the night of the 9th. However, an interview was had with Mrs. Van Orsdale, and she stated she had seen a Studebaker Roadster, about 6:30 p.m., the night of November 9th, about fifteen blocks from the store on the road going out to the country club, and she presumed it was Brooke Hart's.

However, further inquiry developed that there are only two Studebaker President Roadsters in San Jose, and the other car belongs to one Tom Holland, Manager of the P. C. Penney Store at San Jose. Holland was interviewed, and advised he had driven out from his store towards the country club, and would have been at the point where Mrs. Van Orsdale saw the Studebaker Roadster at 6:30 p.m.; that he was on his way to the country club, and accordingly apparently the car Mrs. Van Orsdale saw was in reality the car of Tom Holland.

I also talked with Mr. A. J. Hart, the father of Victim Brooke L. Hart, but he could furnish no further information than that contained in Special Agent Ramsey's investigation, as outlined above.

The same situation exists with respect to Miriam Hart, the sister of Victim, who received the long distance telephone call, and Billy Morris. They could furnish no information other than that given to Special Agent Ramsey.

A check of the bank account of Victim reflects that no checks have been issued by him of any suspicious nature at all recently. His account is in good order, and there is nothing therein to draw any suspicion whatsoever.

With respect to the finding of Victim's car on the Evans Road, Mrs. Balshaw, who is the wife of the Steward of the San Jose Country Club, saw this car parked in front near her residence about 7 p.m., the night of the 9th. She presumed it was a petting party, and did not give any further thought to the matter, until her husband returned from the Country Club, about 9:30 or 10:00 o'clock that night, having already heard of the disappearance of young Hart, and noticed it was his car, and immediately got in touch with the Police. An effort was made to take fingerprints from the car in question, but nothing of value developed. The car was found in good order, with no indication it had been run into the curbing, or forced off the road, and the gas tank was completely filled. In this connection it was ascertained that the gas tank had been filled by Hart the morning of the 9th.

Raymond M. Rowley, a brother-in-law of the Victim, and who also works at the Hart Store, was interviewed, and stated he had no information concerning this case; that he hardly saw Victim at all the day of the 9th, and thought he was out of town. The Victim is floor manager on the first floor of Hart's Department Store. Rowley stated the habits of Victim were exemplary.

He knew of no specialist on the Victim. He had no information of value.

Tom C. A. Hunter, who works on the second floor of Hart's Store, it was ascertained the Victim had been on the second floor of the store practically all afternoon of the 9th, which Mr. Hunter stated was very unusual, as Victim hardly ever was on the second floor, but always on the first; that about 8:30 p.m. Victim had a conversation with a man who wore a suit and paper suit, 3'7" to 3'10", 32 to 35 years of age, sandy complexion, gray felt hat with black band, weighing about 155 pounds. The individual wore gold rimmed glasses. The conversation was in ordinary tones. Further that Victim remained on the second floor until he left the store about 9:30 p.m., at which time he said "goodnight", and has not been seen since.

Hunter stated that for some time Hart had appeared to be rather quiet and worried, and particularly so the afternoon of the 9th.

On November 10th the wallet of Victim was found on a pier on the waterfront at San Francisco, near where the liner Lusitania had been docked. This information was telephoned the writer from San Francisco.

The ship Lusitania had already left for Los Angeles.

The wallet had been found on the pier rail of the mail ship by one Michael Badinger, who in turn delivered the wallet to the "Examiner", a local newspaper in San Francisco. The name of the oil tanker on whose pier the wallet was found was the "Midway". Two other ships were docked nearby, namely the "Santa Paula" bound for Los Angeles, and the "President Van Buren" bound for Honolulu. These ships were all located near pier 34, San Francisco. Accordingly, a radio was dispatched to both the "Santa Paula" and the "President Van Buren" to search for the wallet on their decks, but there was no evidence of Victim being on board.

Immediately upon receipt of the information with respect to the Lusitania, and the possibility of the wallet being found there, through the courtesy of Special Agent Paul Brink left in plane from San Jose with two Police Officers, and Mr. Coaling, Manager of Hart's Department Store, for Los Angeles where the "Examiner" was met before it was read, and a search was made on the mail ship, and all passengers were closely scrutinized, particularly those who boarded the vessel at San Francisco the previous day. The wallet is now in the possession of the San Francisco office, and it bears the name "Brooks J. Hart", and was in the property of a Los Angeles case, which may be of value later, but which has not yet been in final report.

We then turned around in the Chevrolet coach and returned to San Jose, California. While we were riding out in the car with Brooks Hart before we reached the San Antonio bridge, we asked him to turn over his pocket book and money which he did. To the best of my recollection the wallet contained a five (5) dollar bill and two and a half in silver. He divided the money which we obtained from Brooks Hart. I kept the wallet in my possession. After we returned to San Jose by agreement I returned to San Francisco in my father's car, a Pontiac car, and it was our understanding that I was to go to San Francisco and from San Francisco to Oakland and enroute throw the wallet into the bay. By agreement I was also to telephone to Mr. Hart from San Francisco advising him that his son was kidnapped and being held for \$40,000.00 ransom.

"I endeavored to put thru this call from a place, which I believe, is on Market Street but the line was busy. I first tried to place the telephone call about nine thirty p.m. on November 9th, 1933. I then went to the Whitcomb hotel and placed another long distance call to Hart's residence at San Jose at about ten thirty and was successful in completing this call. Some man answered the telephone and I inquired for Mr. Hart and then some girl answered the phone and I told her that her brother was being held for \$40,000.00 ransom and if the family notified the police they would never see Brook Hart again.

"Instead of taking the Ferry from San Francisco to Oakland to drop the mail, at Embarcadero which I had in my possession I walked down the water front for two or three blocks and tossed the mail into the San Francisco Bay. I then returned in my father's machine to San Jose, California, arriving in San Jose shortly after midnight.

[illegible]

I had obtained an envelope at Los Angeles when I got to Tracy through to Sacramento I addressed the envelope to Mrs. Hurt in which I later placed the photograph and printed by Jack Holmes, and mailed it to Mrs. Hurt at Sacramento that night about nine thirty

were unwilling. Members of the family advise it has been seen at the house recently. No one can account for its disappearance. The 1932 diary fails to reflect any information of value.

One Martin Smith, residing at 545 Guerrero Street, San Francisco, furnished Inspector Dullen of the Police Department, with information to the effect that he was positive he saw Victim Hart at 12:30 p.m. Friday night in San Francisco. He stated he was parked at the water front when Victim came up to him, and asked him where pier 28 was located. He described Brooke L. Hart accurately, advising he was without hat or overcoat. He also added the further item that Victim's hair was not a white blond, but was slightly gold or auburn tinted. Instructions were given to Special Agent Montgomery to interview him.

In conjunction with Inspector Dullen Agent covered the waterfront at San Francisco, particularly the spot where the wallet was found, but there was nothing to develop at that particular point. It is one of the busy points to the waterfront which is open and accessible to anyone walking along the walk which is right shore of it, and the wallet could have been thrown from any automobile which could drive right up to the board walk or could have been tossed in from the street.

While making contact of Mrs. Calaveras, who stated that he is positive one of his officers saw Victim Friday afternoon, also that three women in that vicinity had also seen the Victim Friday afternoon. This has been checked telephonically by the San Francisco office, instructions having been left with Special Agent T. E. Criss, but it appears that the ladies in question are no doubt mistaken.

No further developments having occurred at San Francisco, no further efforts having been made to contact Mr. Hart it was ascertained telephonically from Special Agent Bailey at San Jose, therefore on Sunday afternoon, November 15th, upon arrival of Special Agents Carter and Anderson, all three agents proceeded to San Jose, California.

The following investigation was conducted by Special Agents Tetter, Carter, and Anderson:

Mr. Doan, formerly in business with Brooke L. Hart, advised that the Hart store (approximately 50 yards). It is dark at this lot at 8 o'clock. However, one Henry, known and mentioned, and is a middle aged man about fifty to sixty years of age. He was at the parking lot when the Victim came to get his car. The night of November 14th they talked for about three minutes. Hart arriving at about 11:30 p.m. The Victim then drove off in his car.

He was alone, appeared to be in good spirits, and proceeded out to the driveway, which is about fifteen yards from where his car was parked, and from that point in the driveway to the street is a distance of about 75 feet, which is occupied by a realty company. At this time there was only one way of getting in and out of the parking lot, which was this entrance which leads onto Market Street, San Jose, which is a well lighted street at 6 p.m., as there are a number of people and automobiles passing in this vicinity at this time of night. From this point there is a drive a block and a quarter up Market Street, then turn to the right in front of his father's store, and circle to the right down an alleyway, where he was going to pick up his father and sister.

Mr. Kuehn saw nothing suspicious, saw anyone loitering around the parking lot at all that night, in any previous nights.

Accordingly I interviewed all employees of the Commercial Realty Company at San Jose, which is the real estate company by the parking lot. They did not see Hart that night, or notice anything suspicious or particular during the last few weeks, and noticed no one loitering around in any suspicious way.

Mr. J. A. Sullivan was at the real estate company in question until after 6 p.m., and the lights of his office would reflect on the twenty-five foot wall on the driveway on which Hart would drive away in his car, and further a light from the front of his car would shine onto Market Street. However, Mr. Sullivan stated he did not see or observe any suspicious characters, anything unusual, no noise, and his office is immediately adjacent to the driveway, and it is an open building, so he would have had a rather clear view, although it is doubtful if he would have seen in detail, owing to the fact he was in a lighted room, and it was fast becoming dark outside.

Mr. Morgan and his wife, managers of the Commercial Realty Company, were interviewed. His wife is at the store every day until six, and Mr. Morgan is in and out all day long. Neither of these individuals have ever seen any suspicious characters loitering around, nor has they seen any suspicious cars.

Charles O'Brien was again interviewed by Special Agents Maroy, Anderson, and Vetterli, and he recalled that one Frank Scott, formerly with the parking lot, is now a member of the White Horse Club, and stated that he was going to Portland. He stated that Eugene Hahn had obtained the job for Scott at the parking lot, and it might be possible to interview him, although he had nothing definite which would connect Scott with the kidnapping. This will be followed up.

Mr. Portulupi, who runs a speakeasy a half a block outside of the city limits of San Jose, was interviewed, as was his wife, Mary Portulupi, and she stated they sell liquor to young Hart; that he only buys a pint at a time, and on occasions has taken a drink or two there. They advised he was frequently there with Charles O'Brien, and further that Brock Hart always came with the same girl, Jane Hammond, and very seldom remained for any length of time; that he always conducted himself as a gentleman; that they always traded at the "Bar's Store", and always bought a great deal of the boy; that they were in the Portulupi home on Tuesday, November 21st, when young Hart and Jane Hammond, accompanied by Charles O'Brien and his girl, visited their place. They stated, however, they remained for a short time, and had a drink or two, and discussed business affairs, and their respective travels throughout the world, and had left a short time thereafter.

No other people were around at the time, and nothing unusual took place.

Ted Dorris, proprietor of the Robin Hood Inn, also a speakeasy, about a half a block outside of San Jose, stated he is positive that Brock Hart was in his place of business with a girl about nine or nine-thirty p.m., the night of the kidnapping, and stated he was with the same girl he always brought with him, and stated he had had a few drinks, and was feeling pretty good, and mentioned to Ted Dorris the fact that the young lady who had accompanied him was a real good sport in she had had a couple drinks. It is believed, however, that there would be some mistake in the night fixed by Ted Dorris, as we have been unable to verify his story, and Jane Hammond was in reality with Charles O'Brien from about 7:30 p.m., the night of the kidnapping, until late that evening, that they inquired at the Police Station if there had been any accidents, and consequently it was impossible for her to have been at Ted Dorris' on the night in question. There is no gambling permitted at Ted Dorris' place. He was not able to furnish any information of value, stating that he understood the young chap was a little, gambl'd a little, and probably played around a little, but there was nothing unusual about his habits.

Accompanied by Sheriff (Harris) we went to the business place of one Frank Carnese, a gambling joint and speakeasy. It had been rumored that Hart had put out several bad checks and I.O.U.'s at this place. A review of the bank account, however, did not reflect this. Frank Carnese was out of town. This angle will be checked.

Charles O'Brien was again interviewed, and stated that Hart used to go with Mary Dorris of Sacramento, and was with her for about a year; that he then tried to break off with her, and finally did so. This was a year or so before Hart started going half steadily with Jane Hammond. It was ascertained, however, that during the time Hart had associated with Mary Dorris, he had had interviews with her on at least one occasion. Further that Mary Dorris' brother, who lives in Sacramento, was at Lake Tahoe the summer of 1933, with a girl known as

Directly following this large dark sedan was a roadster, and this roadster pulled up in back of the dark sedan opposite Mrs. Silveria's barn. On each side of the roadster a man was standing on the running board, and when the two cars pulled up, one man was heard to say "We got him all right". Then someone commented the driver to get out of the roadster, and stated: "Get in there big boy", and later someone was heard to say "Are we on the right road?", and some other individual said "You hit this road into Milpitas, and then on to the Oakland Road". Then one man said "Where are you going from here". Another said "We are going to head for Stockton, and then about to Sacramento, and we will take him to a cabin there on the hill". Then another man said "What about the gas", and the other said "The tank is full", and some other man said "What about these license plates", and someone replied "Leave it as it is".

She stated she could hear a rattling noise like tin in the back of the car. They then started out with their lights out, one man getting into the roadster, and driving off rapidly, and four men, in addition to some unknown party, driving off in the large dark sedan. She stated they drove off rapidly, and she could hear the sound of their motors for some distance. All in all Mrs. Silveria saw five men, in addition to the man who was taken out of the roadster. She called attention to the fact the roadster had a sort of a canvas top, and stated that the man who was taken out of the roadster did not make any remarks whatsoever, but was wearing a light felt hat, and light overcoat, and from what she could see a light gray shirt. This tallies with the clothing worn by Hart.

She stated that the men apparently conversed in good English, and did not appear to be foreigners, although, of course, she could not describe them. She got a better view of the two cars, namely, the sedan and the roadster, when they were parked, when another car drove down the road, and its lights furnished a clearer vision.

According to Mrs. Silveria could again tell to her daughter, Isabelle Silveria, who was with her on that night near the barn. Agents and Sheriff Baig located Isabelle Silveria at a local school at San Jose, and questioned her. Isabelle is about fourteen years of age, and is a very bright and intelligent young girl. She stated that she and her mother were going to the laundry early in the morning, about 6:30 p.m., after dinner. She would place the time as about 8:30 because they always have dinner at 8:00 o'clock. She stated that right after dinner, she saw two cars drive up in front of their house, and her mother and she were near the barn, one a black sedan, and the other a roadster with a canvas top. She claims she saw five men in all, and states she heard them talk about "plates", but did not know what they meant. She cannot remember the conversation in detail, but remembers what took place the same as Mrs. Silveria.

With respect to fixing the date, Mrs. Silveria saw this incident, she states they have no water on their place, and accordingly, on Friday of each week she goes to her sister's to wash clothes. They do not receive any newspapers at their home, and she remembers specifically that it was the day following the night on which she saw this incident that she was at her sister's washing clothes when she heard of the Hart kidnaping, and thus could positively place this night as November 9th, at about 8:30 p.m.

Accordingly, on Monday night, the 13th, in company with Sheriff Felt, Agents took Brooks Hart's car, and Agent's car, which is also a coupe of a darker color, and drove out to the home of Mrs. Silveria, and placed the two cars in about the exact location where she stated the sedan and roadster were placed, and while these cars are about twenty-five or thirty feet away from where Mrs. Silveria was, talking in ordinary conversational tones can be distinctly heard from the cars to the point where Mrs. Silveria was located. The acoustic proposition at that time of night are such that one can hear distinctly ordinary conversation.

We did not tell Mrs. Silveria the roadster was the car belonging to the Victim, Brooks Hart. However, she stated without any prompting, and pointing to Hart's car, "That looks like the roadster there". At that particular time of night Mrs. Silveria and her daughter could readily have seen the transmission as described. Complete tests were made by placing men at the point where the cars were, in both light and dark nights, and the coloring could be discerned. In addition, Mrs. Silveria could tell that one car was darker than the other. Hence it appears Mrs. Silveria is correct in her version.

Close questioning of Mrs. Silveria indicated that she was not endeavoring to furnish us any fabricated story, but was apparently telling the truth, and she appeared sincere and genuine in relating the incident in question, and efforts were made to confuse her slightly to see if her change, she were not telling the truth, but she sticks splendidly to her story. She stated she told her daughter, Isabella, that she would have liked to call Sheriff Felt, believing the men were possibly bootleggers, but, of course, they had no place at their home.

On Tuesday, the 14th, called on Mr. James J. Cabibi, who stated that one Ernest Dubois of 122 Lyon Street, San Francisco, stated he is acquainted with one John J. Cabibi, an American Italian, who resides at 1012 Alameda Street, San Jose, having been born in Louisiana, and that this John J. Cabibi had tried to get one Dorothy Hubbs, a fifteen-year old girl, out of a prominent family in San Jose, who had been involved in some litigation to go into some halcyon with him. According to the Examiner, Cabibi might be connected with the kidnaping. Further inquiry by Agents James J. Cabibi formerly worked for Hart's store. From the records it was ascertained he was thirty-one years of age in 1931; that he formerly was in business at 2851 West 14th Street, Oakland, and for a time worked for the Fashion Bookery, 122 South

First Street, San Jose, where he was a shoe salesman. During the time this man worked at Hart's, he worked only extra days, namely, on June 9, 1932, November 1, 1932, January 1, 1933, and February 1, 1933. Cabibi has a wife and child born in Guatemala. Further efforts will be made to check the activities of Cabibi.

Miss Allen Hoxory, an employee of Hart's store, stated that an individual by the name of Clyde Fitzgerald, whom she knows slightly, but whose address she does not know, told her that one Jane Hammond was supposed to have been married to George Anderson, a hard boiled fellow at Sacramento, and that this Jane Hammond had formerly lived at Live Oak, California, about six years ago. She wondered if Jane Hammond was the same girl as has been going with Victim for the past year. This Jane Hammond is supposed to be twenty four years of age. This angle will also be checked. However, it is believed to be negative, owing to the fact that the Jane Hammond with whom Hart has been keeping company is about twenty - two years of age, and apparently a refined young lady.

Agents again interviewed young Billy Morris, who first answered the phone at Hart's, and also interviewed Maurice Birnbaum, who came to San Jose, and who was previously interviewed, he being a personal friend of the Victim. He also interviewed Mr. Gosling and Mr. Roari, Manager and Assistant Manager of Hart's store, but the first two could not furnish any additional information of value, while the latter two did not have any information except to state that Brooks Hart was a fine young man, having a very good character and being disinterested that he was getting along nicely in the store, having been taken in as Vice President in September of this year; apparently enjoyed his work, and is a very likable character; that he was temperate and reliable in all he did. They did advise, though, that for a six week's period commencing May, 1933, and ending June, 1933, young Brooks Hart had taken leave of absence studying at the University of California at Berkeley, California.

Mr. Smith furnished these Agents with information that Mr. Smith, Chief Criminal Deputy, said two men by the names of V. E. Bidley and G. C. Coley, 1234 Myrtle Avenue, Oakland, California, reported that on Thursday night, about 8:30 p.m., on the San Francisco Bay Bridge, they were on the Oakland end of the bridge, when there was a man asking for help. They called to him to wait, and tried to follow the man, but the voice kept getting weaker and weaker. A search around failed to indicate anything of value. These men are now in custody.

A anonymous telephone call was received at the San Francisco Division Office, stating that one E. J. Bittencourt, located at a service station at the corner of Park and Rice Streets, San Jose, had information on this case. Bittencourt was located and interviewed by Agents, and stated he had nothing of value, that someone, no doubt, was endeavoring to play a practical joke on him.

Mr. Gosling, Manager of Hart's Store, furnished information that one George Canise wanted to see some investigators. Canise was located by Agents at the San Jose Water Works Company, at Folsom and College Avenues, and he had nothing in particular of value to offer, stating he has been recently with a man by the name of "Mel", who always has plenty of money, and once told Canise that there was no need of working as long as you could make easy money. He felt this man might be mixed up with the kidnaping, but has no definite information.

A post card was received by Mr. Hart, in an envelope mailed from Sacramento, California, and printed on Monday, the 13th, advising him to have a radio installed in his son's Grudstaker Bomster, and keep in touch with Station K.F.O., in Oakland, and have \$10,000 in certain denominations ready. This card, and all other exhibits which will be mentioned below have been placed in proper cellophane containers without being handled, have been photographed at San Jose, and will undoubtedly be forwarded to the Division for examination at the earliest possible moment. No particular credence was placed in the receipt of the card in question, owing to the fact that Hart has already a radio in his automobile, and further because of the fact the card stated to keep in touch with the broadcasting station, which appeared to be absurd. No further word was received from the kidnapers, and not a single soul, with the exception of Mrs. Silvers, has been located who saw any incident, or heard any conversation which might indicate a kidnaping of young Brooks Hart. However, no information of value has been obtained from these sources.

Accordingly, in the absence of any further word from Mr. A. F. Hart, the father of the victim, issued a public statement to the press on the night of Monday, the 13th, and which was published in all Tuesday papers, which reads as follows:

TO THE KIDNAPERS OF BROOKS L. HART:

We are anxious for the return of our son, Brooks. We desire to negotiate for his return personally or through any intermediary who might be selected. When contact is made we will do anything that is necessary to prove that Brooks is held by you. All negotiations will be considered confidential by us and we will allow no interference from any outside source.

(Signed) Mr. & Mrs. Alexander L. Hart

On Monday Mr. Hart, Sr., received a letter postmarked at San Francisco. The envelope and letter were printed with pencil. Mr. Hart was advised in this letter that his son, Brooks, was in the possession of the individual who had written the letter, and if Mr. Hart was willing to negotiate, he should have a small figure one placed in the window of his store at the corner of Santa Clara and Market Streets. Accordingly, on about 7:30 p.m., the night of November 14th, Charles O'Brien, the personal friend of the victim, received a telephone call, which was later traced, and found to be a pay station, but the location of same not known, owing to the fact that this particular call could not be traced. In this conversation Charles O'Brien was directed to get in touch with Mr. Hart, and advise Mr. Hart he should take the 7:35 train for Los Angeles, California, and bring the money with him. The individual told Charles O'Brien to deliver this message to Mr. Hart right away, and accordingly O'Brien did so, and immediately thereafter reported it to Agents, outlining the foregoing.

Mr. Hart, in the absence of any definite proof indicating that this individual really had his son, Brooks, in his custody, did not take the train in question, and accordingly about 8:45 p.m., Mrs. Hart received a telephone call from a man from a pay station, which was traced and found to be Mr. Harry's Building, 100, 375 Second Street, San Jose, California, in which this individual inquired as to why Mr. Hart had not kept his previous appointment, and stated he should take the 9:30 p.m. train immediately for Los Angeles, and be met by a man with a suitcase, to whom he should turn over the money, and in return his son would be released to him. Mr. Hart pleaded with this man, telling him he was rich, and for that reason wanted some tangible proof that the party in question was holding his son, and this party was unable to furnish any proof, and accordingly Mr. Hart did not keep the appointment.

In the meantime the telephone company of San Jose, on all calls to the Hart home, changed this local call, and Agents and Mr. Hart were alerted to this point in question, with a view to possibly noting the individual who had placed the call, and trailing him, owing to the fact that it was felt dangerous that no affirmative action should be taken until young Brooks had been returned safely to his parents. However, Agent and Mr. Hart found the man had already left, and Eugene Williams, one of the attendants, stated that a man came in a few minutes before 8:45 p.m., and inquired as to a lady with a Chevrolet car, and in fact called into the office, and while the boys were at the other part of the lot, used the pay telephone. Williams describes this man as about 5'11", 160 pounds, wearing a light brown suit and a light brown overcoat of the same color, age twenty-five to thirty, with dark hair, not smoking, did not wear glasses, dark brown hair, ruddy complexion, neatly dressed. The man was a stranger to Eugene Williams.

Accordingly, we took Eugene Williams in the day, and immediately drove to the railway station in San Jose, to see if the individual showed up at that point, and while the station was covered thoroughly, no one answering the description of this individual was seen, and, of course, Mr. Hart, in the absence of proof, did not keep the appointment.

In order to save the way for free activity between the kidnapers and Mr. Hart, and in order that the victim might be released unharmed, the case carried motion to the effect that Mr. Hart was willing to negotiate with the kidnapers without any interference, and that all law enforcement officers had been taken off the case. He was informing ourselves accordingly. However, Special Agent, R. Ramsey, who is reported by newspaper to have left the home of Mr. Hart, is still detained in the home. Mr. Hart's own personal suggestion, but he does not leave the home, but another telephone, and, incidentally, there as a matter of precaution it was this should break naturally.

A private line has been installed into the West House through which we can communicate constantly with Moscow. This phase is, of course, classified, and is not known to the public.

[illegible]

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

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In accordance with Mr. Hart's desires, a card bearing the number two was placed in the store the afternoon of November 18th. However, Mr. Hart cannot drive a car, and he positively stated he wanted a statement to the effect "I cannot drive" so that the alleged kidnappers would again contact him, for he wanted to explain the matter to them.

As soon as the card was placed in the window, however, Special Agent Anderson was detailed to watch the Hart place of business, and if anyone suspicious showed up, looking over the card, he should get the license numbers of the car, or trail the individual, but under no circumstances should he endeavor to take anyone into custody. We are now awaiting further developments in this particular angle.

2. The afternoon of the 14th instant, one Harry S. Fowler, who is married to a sister of Mrs. Hart, wife of Mr. Hart, called hurriedly at Mr. Gosling's office at the Hart store, and stated he wanted to see Mr. Hart. Mr. Gosling called Agents, and when we arrived he acted as though he was scared to death, and wanted to see no one but Mr. Hart. He made arrangements for him to see Mr. Hart, Senior. Mr. Hart later advised Agents that this Mr. Fowler had come to him, and told him under no circumstances should he talk to the Federal men about what he had to say. Mr. Fowler related the following to Mr. Hart, Senior, who in turn repeated same confidentially to Agents, namely: That he, Fowler, had been contacted on the 14th by a San Joaquin man, whose name and initials he failed to reveal to Mr. Hart, but this man has the reputation of having accessibility to the underworld, and that this man advised Fowler that he had been stopped on the streets of San Jose the 13th of November, by a dark complexioned man, near him a rough looking overcoat, and with a heavy growth of beard, or a false beard, which individual was apparently an Italian, and they engaged in conversation that the matter of the Hart case was being handled, and this bearded individual asked this other unknown man how he would like to act as intermediary in this case for \$7,500; that he stated he would not become involved for any price, and that finally the Italian smiled and threatened him, and now he had come to Fowler for help.

Fowler then suggested to Hart that he go with him, Fowler, to this man's residence at 7 or 7:30 o'clock, to talk this matter over. Hart refused to do this, but advised Fowler to tell this intermediary that for reasons he thought best he, Hart, would not come in the house now, but that he, Hart, was willing to proceed with the negotiation. This was the substance of the conversation.

Fowler advised Mr. Hart that he was going to San Jose the night of the 14th, and accordingly it was decided that Fowler should phone the message in that city this morning in connection with the case. It was also decided that Fowler should be kept in contact with the man who has been heard from Fowler.

Mr. Hart advised Mr. Fowler he wanted two things before leaving the house, first, some proof that the negotiators are the genuine holders of the son, and second, that his son will be returned to him as a result of any actions taken by him.

Information develops that Harry D. Fowler now operates a garage at Oakland, California. His folks, however, live at San Jose. It was understood that Fowler was involved in some difficulty, either under the White Slave Traffic Act, or by marrying before he had been legally divorced from his first wife about twenty years ago. He came from Washington, D.C. to Seattle, Washington, and apparently married another woman, name unknown, before he had divorced his first wife, and got into considerable difficulty. Mr. Hart, together with an attorney, went to Seattle, and finally got the matter straightened out. This was about twenty years ago, as stated above, but according to information received, Fowler does not have a good reputation. He is in financial difficulties, and it is said he would buy anything for a dollar down and a dollar up and then, and he is not considered by Mr. Hart, Mr. Gosling, or others who know him, as a high class, reputable individual.

It was reported to the newspaper that a man was held at Oakland, California, who had a letter in his possession which related to the Hart case. Agent Zetterli immediately telephoned the San Francisco Office to check up on this at once, and telephonically it was ascertained that the individual at Oakland was simply the victim of a hoax. However, the details will be submitted in a report from San Francisco.

A letter has been received from Maurice Birmingham, writer, reciting that Mr. Henry Gullatti, who resides at 449 Harvard Avenue, Menlo Park, California, was a very intimate friend of Hart's during his stay at the International House on the Berkeley Campus, and secured a roomed rooming Hart's. Further that Mr. Gullatti was a former member of the Flamingo and that this Mr. Gullatti took Brooke to several speakeasies and gambling places, and Birmingham indicated that he might have some information. The address of Gullatti is unknown.

A further letter has been received, printed apparently in Los Angeles, and so inserted as in the "Los Angeles Times", advising Mr. Hart to address the editor of "Christie" through the personal columns of the "Times" as outlined. A photographic copy of this letter is attached. It is planned, instead of Mr. Hart going to Los Angeles in person, that it be handled in the personal columns, that it be handled in the personal columns, and not to address to "Christie", and advising that Mr. Hart is willing to proceed, but wants proof. Mr. Hart is also his own name in his personal notice.

Special Agent Carroll has interviewed the doctor who examined Brooke, Dr. Heston, on his order of Brooke, and gave him a thorough physical examination, following the "young man" might have been suffering from some disease, in that his mental equilibrium disturbed, and he

aided to disappear. However, Mr. Conway reports that this Doctor, whose name will be given in a subsequent report, advised that the Victim was in good health, in good spirits, and apparently not addicted to the use of liquor, or any sex abuse, and was suffering from no disease whatever.

A report of the Victim's chiropodist, to whom he went for foot treatment the day he disappeared, together with a detailed report from his dentist, who handles all the dental work of the Victim, will be incorporated in a subsequent report.

As stated above all telephone calls into the West residence from long distance are being checked by operators. Arrangements have been made for Grant Pacey to listen in on local calls, and every suspicious call is being traced forthwith. The telephone situation at San Francisco, as outlined earlier in this report, still exists. Arrangements also have been made with the Postal Telegraph Company and the Western Union Telegraph Company at San Francisco, to the effect that if anyone should deposit money in a pay telephone station to send a wire to the West's residence, that the Division office at San Francisco be notified immediately as to the location of the office and the pay station, so that the individual could be traced.

Photographic copies of all the letters which are considered of value are attached hereto for the information of the Division. The originals of these communications are being retained here for the time being, and have now been removed from the original. However, they have all been properly placed in collapsible envelopes, and are being carefully preserved, so that any fingerprints will not be disturbed. After consultation between Special Agents in Charge Connor and Vetterli, it was deemed advisable to keep the letters here for the present, and if they are from the legitimate recipients, to allow them the return of these letters, and it was considered advisable to hold the letters here in order to obviate any possible danger to the Victim. If the letters were delivered and could not be returned, they might, for example, leave the floor. However, they will, of course, be forwarded to the Division for study and examination by the Crime Detection Unit, just as soon as possible. Meanwhile, as stated above, for the information of the Division, photographic copies of all direct communications are being attached to the Division copies of this report.

There is no indication to date that Brooks has been contacted by any criminal group.

A description of the Victim follows. This description will be found in a modified manner in my next report. A photograph of the Victim, which was taken just the day before he was kidnaped, is also attached hereto for the information of the Division.

Description of Martin Brooke L. East:

Age	22 years,
Height	5'11".
Weight	108 lbs. stripped.
Eyes	Bright blue.
Hair	Light ash brown blond and wavy.
Build	Slim, narrow shoulders and narrow hips.
Feet	Flat, and he has a felt pad which is held in place by a 2" wide piece of adhesive tape, made necessary by a protruding bone in right foot at the base of the 4th toe - 4th bone.

SPC:LM:GAS

KIDNAPING

Mr. Brooks Hart, San Jose, California.

On the evening of November 9, 1933, Mr. Brooks Hart, age 27, a graduate of the University of Santa Clara and a son and partner of Alexander J. Hart, one of San Jose's wealthiest merchants, was kidnaped at about 6:00 p.m., while on his way home from the department store operated by his father and himself. His failure to arrive at home on schedule time caused his family to become uneasy, and about 10:00 p.m., two telephone calls were received from San Francisco at his home, advising that the son, Brooks Hart, was being held and would be released upon payment of \$40,000 ransom.

The San Francisco office of the Division of Investigation of the U. S. Department of Justice, together with the local police of San Francisco, San Jose, and the sheriff of San Jose, immediately initiated an investigation. The authorities had the fullest cooperation and assistance of the victim's father. A special squad of Agents, especially trained in the handling of kidnaping cases, was immediately ordered to proceed to San Francisco in order to augment the group of Agents regularly stationed there. Between November 9 and November 13, several letters and telephone calls were received from the kidnapers, and on the evening of November 14 a telephone call was received at the residence of Mr. Alexander J. Hart, and through investigative activities of the Agents of this Division, together with the sheriff of San Jose, California, Harold E. Townsend, 28 years of age, was taken into custody at 7:30 p.m. A thorough interrogation of Townsend by the Agents of this Division brought about a full confession, including the fact that John H. Holmes, 29 years of age, who was taken into custody at a hotel in San Jose, California, had also made a complete confession. The confessions of Townsend and Holmes disclosed that they kidnaped Mr. Brooks Hart on the evening of November 9 about 6:00 p.m. and drove to the San Mateo bridge. There they killed Hart and bound his arms with wire, and attaching some bricks to his body, threw the body into San Mateo Bay. Holmes and Townsend then proceeded to write the letters and to get through the telephone calls, demanding \$40,000 ransom.

Holmes and Townsend have been removed from San Jose to San Francisco, in order to insure safeguarding by reason of the possible receipt of public information which they are most apt to divulge.

It is the policy of the Department that the public be kept in view of the more serious charge of murder which will be lodged against the kidnapers. It is contemplated that the case will be turned over to the local authorities for prosecution.

The Chief of Police of San Jose, Mr. J. E. Black, the sheriff of San Jose, Mr. H. E. Davis, and the Chief of Police of San Francisco, Mr. William J. ...

KIDNAPING (Continued)

Quinn, have rendered excellent cooperation and assistance to the Federal authorities in this matter. The Agent in Charge of the San Francisco office, Mr. E. E. Vetterli, and the Agent in Charge of the Kansas City office who proceeded to San Francisco by plane, Mr. E. E. Gearty, directed the details of this investigation at San Jose. These Agents in Charge were in telephonic communication with this office at Washington throughout the entire time.

The above is submitted for your consideration and such
attention you deem same may warrant in connection with the investi-
gation being conducted by you in the Brock Hurt Kidnapping.

Very truly yours,

G. C. Spears
Special Agent in Charge

cc: 3
by Division

DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Laboratory Report

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Case: *Thomas H. Thurmond, Cal Kidnapping* Number: *77-375-18*
Specimen: 1 envelope & post card citation message *Hart*
2 envelope & 2 page letter " " *Hart*
3 " " " " " "
Examination requested by: *San Francisco office*
Date received: *11/24/43*
Examination desired: *General & finger prints*

Date of Report: *11/24/43*
Result of examination: Examination by:

Envelope: postmarked San Jose Nov 15-1 pm
add to A. J. Hunt 6.5 x 3.64 flaps
note paper 34. transformed letter
unimpaired. The Wm Linnell printing

*no mark
through*

Message 3 sheets 5.01 x 7.98 post
t.p. paper perhaps pencil note but possibly
other. 4 sheets and mostly same. immediately
all have tear out places. top of sheets where
clips had was no glue visible however
Pencil Printing. No Wm Linnell

Envelope marked No. 3 P M
Nov 13 6:25 pm 3.64 x 6.5 Envelope
back of envelope as above, enclosed 2 page letter
addressed to you.
Letter 7.96 x 5.00 from Jim Linnell
No Wm Linnell printing same as above
both due to same

Envelope 3.64 x 6.5 fragments
identical except similar to other envelopes
not printing same No Wm Linnell

November 16, 1933.

MEMORANDUM

Mr. Vetterli telephoned from San Francisco with reference to the kidnaping of Brooke Hart. He related to me the developments in the case, as included in my memorandum to the Attorney General under today's date. At the time he called the family of the young man had not yet been advised of his death. I instructed that this be done as soon as possible. The body had not yet been recovered but the Bay was being dredged. I instructed that a check be made of the purchases of wire and bricks by Holmes and Thornwood. Mr. Vetterli stated that efforts were being continued to secure a statement from Holmes.

Mr. Tolson	
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Glavin	
Mr. Ladd	
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tracy	
Mr. Carson	
Mr. Egan	
Mr. Gurnea	
Mr. Harbo	
Mr. Hendon	
Mr. Jones	
Mr. Quinn	
Mr. Nease	
Mr. Lester	
Mr. Cook	

NOT RECORDED

COPY FILED IN

66-3574

RECORDED

7-215-77

NOV 21 1933

NOV 21 1933

AIR MAIL
SPECIAL DELIVERY
REGISTERED MAIL

U. S. Department of Justice
Bureau of Investigation
318 News Building
San Francisco, California.

Mr. Nathan	
Mr. Tolson	
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Glavin	
Mr. Ladd	
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tracy	
Mr. Carson	
Mr. Egan	
Mr. Gurnea	
Mr. Harbo	
Mr. Hendon	
Mr. Jones	
Mr. Quinn	
Mr. Nease	
Miss Gandy	

REV:13
Refer file
#7-27.

November 12, 1933.

Director,
Division of Investigation,
U.S. Department of Justice,
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir:

Re: THOMAS H. THURMOND,
JOHN W. HOLMES
BROOKE L. HART - Victim.
Kidnaping.

I am attaching hereto, marked #1, the original envelope and post card mailed from Sacramento, California, by Subjects, to Mr. A. J. Hart, at San Jose, California, demanding ransom.

Marked #2 is the original envelope, with a two page letter, mailed to Mr. Hart from San Francisco, California.

Marked #3 is the original envelope, with a four page printed letter, addressed to Mr. Hart from San Jose, California, demanding ransom, and issuing instructions.

Will you please have these letters and envelopes thoroughly examined by the Scientific Crime Unit, with a view of securing any fingerprints thereon, and compare them specifically with the fingerprints of Subject Holmes and Subject Thurmond, copies of whose fingerprints will be at the Division within a few days, if they have not already been received. I am endeavoring to have them forwarded air mail, special delivery. If possible, a duplicate set of fingerprints will be forwarded with the report in the instant case.

Briefly, Subject Thurmond admits his entire connection with this case. Subject Holmes, while having made a confession, has now secured an attorney, and refuses to talk further. It is therefore of paramount importance to find some prints on these letters or envelopes which tally with those of Subject Holmes, so that we might conclusively prove his connection, in the event he enters a plea of not guilty.

RECORDED

INDEXED

NOV 24 1933

7-375-18
NOV 22 1933 A.M.
DIRECTOR OF INVESTIGATION
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Director—2.

Will you please submit your findings to this office
when you have completed your analysis, and return the originals.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "R. E. Vetterli". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a prominent initial "R" and a long, sweeping underline.

R. E. VETTERLI,

Special Agent in Charge.

UNITED STATES BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

FILE NO. 7-27

REPORT MADE AT San Francisco, Cal.	DATE WHEN MADE 11/19/33	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 11/15-18/33	REPORT MADE BY R. E. Tetterli-13
TITLE CHARGED THOMAS H. THURMOND JOHN M. HOLMES BROOKS L. HART - Victims.			CHARACTER OF CASE KIDNAPING

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

Further telephone call from one of the kidnapers of Victim Hart to the home of Dr. A. J. Hart, by a prompt handling, made possible the effecting of the apprehension of Subject Thurmond, from whom a detailed confession was secured regarding the kidnaping and murder of Brooks Hart, and as a result of this confession obtained by Division Agents, and the implication of Subject Holmes, the latter was apprehended at San Jose, California, and a confession secured from him in which he confessed admit the kidnaping of Brooks Hart at San Jose, California, at the point of a revolver, November 9, 1933, the taking of the Victim to the San Mateo Bridge, where he was robbed and bound by wire, and weighted down with cement blocks, and the body tossed over the San Mateo Bridge into the San Francisco Bay. Further admissions secured from Subjects regarding the mailing of letters from the subjects to the United States - San Francisco, California, San Jose, California, and San Jose, California, the father of Victim at San Jose, California, and to be presented to the United States Attorney at San Francisco for further. Subjects also may be tried for either kidnaping or murder, or both, in State

REFERENCE:

Report of Special Agent in Charge R. E. Tetterli, San Francisco, California, dated 11/19/33.

APPROVED AND

COPIES OF THIS REPORT FURNISHED TO:

1. Division
2. San Francisco

NOV 22 1933 A.M. NOV 25 1933

DETAILS:

Special Agent Harold Aderach, who was keeping watch opposite Hart's Store, where the mural "2" had been placed, in accordance with written instructions received by Hart from the kidnappers, did not notice anything suspicious, there being, of course, hundreds of people passing that corner in a few minutes, and accordingly, he returned to the St. Claire Hotel, at San Jose, California, for a further consultation with Agents Conway and Vetterli.

The following information is taken from a memorandum submitted by Special Agent W. P. Ramsey, Jr., who was stationed at the Hart home:

On November 14, 1933, this Agent being stationed in the home of Alex J. Hart, 1715 The Alameda, San Jose, California, was informed at about 4:30 p.m., that Charles O'Brien, Jr., cousin of Brooke L. Hart, was calling at the door. Mr. Hart was imperative that he see Mr. Alex Hart alone immediately.

Mr. Hart, after talking with O'Brien privately, informed Agent that O'Brien had just told him that his cousin, had received a telephone call from a strange voice, directing that Mr. O'Brien get in touch with Mr. Hart, and tell him to take the 7:00 train that evening from San Jose for Los Angeles, that he should ride until he was met by a man with a white mask, to whom he should be prepared to turn over the ransom money, and that when his son, Brooke, would be released. Having no tangible evidence of the validity of said contact, and that the person calling it had his boy, Mr. Hart decided to disregard it.

At approximately 8:45 p.m., the telephone at the Hart residence was heard to ring by Agent, and Mr. Hart answered on the upstairs extension of the phone, after being informed by Mrs. L. D. Cobb, close family friend, who was residing with the Harts, and who was answering all telephone calls to the residence on the Hart wire, that he, Hart, was wanted. Deputy Sheriff Ray Hicks of San Jose, who was also secretly stationed at the Hart residence, then picked up the receiver of the phone on the first floor of the residence, and listened in to the first part of the conversation between Mr. Hart and the voice coming over the wire. Agent, who was on the same floor, then Mr. Hart was answering on, immediately went to the back room rear of the Hart home, where a private telephone wire had been installed, and called the operator to at once trace the call coming in over the Hart residence phone.

The operator, after check, replied that this call was coming from a pay station phone number Ballard 7691, which pay station was located at 375 South Second Street. Agent immediately communicated this information to S. M. Vetterli, Special Agent in Charge, and Sheriff F. J. Ellis, who was located at Ballard 1000, Sheriff's office in San Jose, California.

Special Agent in Charge Vetterli advised Agent some few minutes later that they had missed the caller at 375 South Second Street by some 4 minutes, but had secured a description.

Deputy Sheriff Hicks, who listened in on this conversation between Mr. Hart and this voice from the beginning, advised that he heard a voice say "Is this Mr. Hart?" that Mr. Hart replied in the affirmative, and that then the voice asked Mr. Hart why he had not taken the 7:30 train to Los Angeles as directed; that Mr. Hart remonstrated with the man on the other end of the wire, pointing out that he, Hart, desired to deal with the man, would do anything in his power to get his son back, but that he must have some assurance that the party speaking had the boy. Hicks advised that he then left the wire for a moment to rush to the back room where Agent's private phone was located to have the call traced, not knowing whether or not the man would be traced; that when he returned Agent nothing came, he, Hicks returned at once to the downtown phone, and heard the end of the conversation in which Hicks stated he heard this voice tell Mr. Hart that this was his last chance that he, Hart, should "make the 7:30 train to Los Angeles" or it would be "too late" and then the phone hung up.

After Mr. Hart at this time advised Agent that the above had been the last substance of the conversation with this unknown voice, that he added that, when he, Hart, was called to the wire to give him some assurance that he had his boy, which he had, he had no idea of the voice's identity, but that the voice had replied that Hicks was a long way from San Jose; that it would take the man to get anything of this kind for Mr. Hart, and would involve a lot of trouble so he, this voice, would have to get in touch with headquarters at his house, and he would be back at once; that he, the voice, would tell Hart that they had his son, and that he could furnish him with some proof; that Hicks had on a few occasions and a time told him, and had his glasses with him at the time he disappeared; that this was proof, inasmuch as this information had not appeared in the newspaper; that the voice then promised him that if he would come a little later, and board the train, that he would not have to wait, but that when the money was turned over the boy would be released in the morning. He had no further recollection of the matter discussed at this time. It is significant in connection with this conversation that the voice told Hart that it would take two weeks to get some personal note from his son, and yet during the same conversation promised the boy's return the following morning. Instructions were given to Mr. Hart to call the phone number Ballard 7691.

Both Mr. Hart and Deputy Sheriff Hinkle described the voice as being smooth, natural, apparently calm, almost soft, ~~and that~~ ~~that~~. They stated that the language was apparently that of an educated person, and that the grammar used was good.

Mr. A. P. Cohn, friend of the family, Miriam Hart, daughter, and Alice Hart, daughter, heard Mr. Hart's conversation at the time of this call, as well as Mrs. Nettie M. Hart, mother of victim, but aside from corroborating the fact of the call and the general trend of Mr. Hart's conversation, demanding assurance that the party had his son, and that he, Hart, was willing to do anything to get his son back if he had this assurance, they advised they had no information, having been too excited to get the exact words used.

On Wednesday, November 15, 1933, a letter was delivered to the Hart residence by Mr. Louis Rossi, assistant manager of the L. Hart & Son, Inc., Department Store, who advised that same had just been received at the store, corner of Market and Santa Clara Streets. This was at about 1:00 p.m. This letter, more fully described in connection with other reports in this case, was turned over to Special Agents in Charge Vetterli and Conroy, who were present at the Hart home at this hour. The letter, which was printed on plain white paper, and was four pages long, reflecting the sequence of contents made by the writer in the case, beginning with the first telephone call from the Whitcomb Hotel in San Francisco on the evening of November 14th, the letter from Sacramento, California, the second letter from San Francisco, dictating that a figure "1" be placed on a sign in the store window, and lastly the telephone call of the preceding evening, all of which letters and contacts are noted in detail in other reports in this case, but which are summarized here because this particular letter demanded that another sign be placed in the window containing the letter "2". If its instructions were to be followed, and which demanded that Hart drive to Los Angeles, but inasmuch as Hart is unable to drive a car, it was decided to place the message in the window with the notation "I can't drive" or "it", in addition to the notation "2", and that it was thought this turn of events might persuade the writer of the letter to make another telephone call, demanding again that Hart take the next train to Los Angeles, if he could not drive.

Accordingly, at 6:30 p.m., on this date, Agent communicated from private phone in the Hart residence, which number is Bellard 2128, to the Chief Operator of the telephone exchange on duty at that time, who was requested, in addition to the calls coming into the residence, as has been done since the first day of investigation, to be particularly alert on this evening, and to call the phone immediately when any call to this number was received. The Chief Operator of the exchange was called at 7:00 p.m., in response to a ring on the private phone, and was advised by the operator that two calls had been made from pay stations in the store, the first call to the Hart residence, but that both times the party calling had hung up before answering the question, and stated that the time

call had come from a pay station located in the name of the Pacific Telephone & Telegraph Company, a public booth at the corner of First and San Antonio Streets, in San Jose, California; that the call had come in at exactly 7:12 p.m., and the number of the phone at the pay station was Ballard 5493; that the second call had been set up at 7:19 p.m., just a few seconds before this advice from her, the operator, to Agent, and had come from a public pay station booth located in Higgins Drug Store, corner of 19th and Santa Clara Streets, number Ballard 7521.

Inasmuch as the telephone facilities at the Hart residence consist of one telephone, main line and two extensions, the main line terminating at the foot of the staircase in the large hall reception corridor on the first floor, and one extension terminating in the upstairs front bedroom immediately adjoining Brooks Hart's room, and the other in the kitchen, it was the usual practice for Agent or Deputy Sheriff Hicks to monitor incoming calls from either the main line or the upstairs extension. The staircase to the second floor is open and ordinarily a voice on the main line phone on the first floor can be heard at the upstairs extension when the doors to the bedroom are open. It was believed important in monitoring these calls that the person answering and the person monitoring remove the receiver of their respective phones at the same time, or simultaneously, in order that suspicion would not be cast that the wire was open, to the party calling, it having been noted that if this was not done a very noticeable click was heard when the receiver broke in on the call or vice versa. Agent therefore made arrangements with Mrs. A. B. Cohn, who was assigned to answer all incoming calls, to go to the main line phone on the first floor, give Agent opportunity to get into position, and then that she count aloud in a voice audible to Agent "1-2-3", the receivers then being removed at the same instant by Mrs. Cohn and Agent on the count of "3".

At exactly 7:12 p.m., the main domestic line by Mrs. Cohn, and on the upstairs extension by Agent at the count of "3" by Mrs. Cohn. Mrs. Cohn said "hello", and a voice answered "Is Mr. Hart there?" Mrs. Cohn answered "I'll see". "Just hold the wire". After a few moments on the downstairs phone, and Agent heard from the upstairs extension, the following conversation:

Voice: "Is this Mr. Hart?"
 Mr. Hart: "Yes".
 Voice: "The FBI, we had our serial number in your window this afternoon."
 Mr. Hart: "Yes, it was there, I can't drive."
 Voice: "Mr. Hart, we got Charles O'Brien, or some member of your family and leave P.D.C.!"
 Mr. Hart: "I can't drive, and I'm in no physical condition to make a trip."
 Voice: "Mr. Hart, I want your answer, Yes or No, will you?"
 Mr. Hart: "I am willing to deal with you, as an individual, if my power is going to be back, but I am unable to leave now."

Police: "You get Charlie O'Brien or some member of your family with you right away, and start P.D.Q., and have the rumble seat of the car open and up."

Mr. Hart: "I don't know whether I can get Charlie O'Brien to go or not."

Voice: "Well, I don't care, you get Charlie O'Brien or some member of your family and go P.D.Q."

Mr. Hart: "I want to deal with you so we can't, but I can't go, I'll have to get somebody that will be satisfactory to you as a go-between."

Voice: "Well, who would we get?"

Mr. Hart: "I don't have, somebody you name, or I can name somebody."

Voice: "Mr. Hart, I've got orders from Headquarters, and this is the last time - this is your last chance, that's all I can do. Still you get Charlie O'Brien and go or not. If you won't NOW it will be just too late."

Mr. Hart: "No, I won't go, I haven't any assurance that you have the boy. Can't you give me any assurance?"

Voice: "We have your boy. Mr. Hart, I am one of the boys that wrote the letters you received, you remember the long one last afternoon?"

Mr. Hart: "Yes, I received it."

Voice: "Well, you get Charlie O'Brien and leave P.D.Q."

Mr. Hart: "Well, where shall I get him?"

Voice: "Follow the instructions of that letter of the 13th of March, leave for Los Angeles in the car. Your boy will be returned."

Mr. Hart: "Now so I know I'll get my boy, go ahead."

Voice: "The driver of your car will be told where to pick up your boy at once."

Mr. Hart: "I know, but can't I have some assurance that you will get my boy back?"

Voice: "Mr. Hart, you get Charlie O'Brien and go at once."

The party at the other end of the wire then hung up.

At the time of the above conversation, the time of the call, all original notes are being incorporated in the San Francisco file in this case.

While the above conversation was in progress, Deputy Sheriff Ray Hicks answered the private wire in the second floor rear room, which Agent heard ringing a moment after the above conversation started. Deputy Hicks advised Agent upon interview later that the operator had the call above noted traced to a pay station phone at 223 South Market Street, in San Jose; that he, Hicks, immediately got in touch with Sheriff E. J. Metz, and conveyed the information as to the location of instant call to him, and the Sheriff dashed for the location at once; that he then immediately called Special Agent in Charge Trotterli at the St. Claire Hotel; was in immediate touch with the answering voice, is not sure whether it was Trotterli or Conroy; that he directed him to the location of the call, advising it was coming from a spot only a block from the Hotel St. Claire.

Some half hour after the above conversation, or at about 6:45 p.m., Special Agents in Charge Conroy called Agent on Agent's private wire in the Hart home, and advised that they had arrived at the 223 Market Street address simultaneously with the call to the Hart home, that they had caught the man making the call; that he, Special Agent in Charge Conroy, desired to put this man, that had been picked up, on the wire and let him talk with this Agent without disturbance from his vicinity, to discover if it was the same voice that had called Mr. Hart earlier that evening.

Agent heard Special Agent in Charge Conroy talk the person he had close to him, and the Special Agent in Charge Conroy advised was the same man picked up at the phone booth, that a man wanted to talk to him. Agent then heard what to him was when this person began to speak a voice which late positively no counter-voice came from the first word to the last, that it was exactly the same voice to which the Agent had listened at 7:10 p.m., in the conversation with Mr. Hart, noted above, which conversation as will be indicated below, lasted some five to seven minutes, and gave Agent Conroy ample opportunity to familiarize himself thoroughly with the tone, type of pronunciation, speed of speech, accent, inflection, modulation and grammar. The voice noted during the conversation with Mr. Hart had not been rough, but rather soft, youthful.

Miriam Hart, who had entered the first phone call, also listened to the voice at this time, as did Mr. Hart, and both commented that it was the voice they had previously heard in the telephone booth.

Telephone operator's names who set up call at 7:10 were the girl on duty at 6 p.m., and the evening chief operator, who supervised and advised that this call was set up at six seconds to 6 p.m., and lasted seven minutes. J. P. Hurdie, Chief Special Agent of the Pacific Telephone & Telegraph Company, San Francisco, can furnish these names, which the local manager cannot give out.

Immediately upon receipt of the telephone call from Special Agent W. E. Ramsey, Jr., reciting that an individual was again contacting Mr. Hart's home, Agent rushed to that vicinity, and arrived there simultaneously with Sheriff Daig, and Under Sheriff Hamilton, where Subject Thurmond was taken into custody. He was brought back to the St. Claire Hotel, and later to the office of Sheriff Daig. He was interrogated briefly by Sheriff Daig, and stated he did not know why he had been arrested; that he was a good boy, had attended church regularly; that his parents were well known in San Jose to Sheriff Daig. He added he had been attending a show, and could not have at all been mixed up in this case.

However, he finally admitted that he had placed the telephone call from the garage in question to the home of Mr. Hart, and stated that that was his only connection, and he did this in a moment of foolishness, stating he had been in love with a girl for a number of years, and this girl had turned him down about a year ago, and he had seen this girl on the streets in San Jose that afternoon, and as a result did not know what he was doing. While at the theatre he had heard two persons discussing the numeral '2' in the window of Hart's store, and he got the foolish notion in his head he should call Mr. Hart, and demand ransom for the return of his son. He denied any further connection, however.

Accordingly, about 8:00 p.m., the same night, when this Subject failed to make any further admissions, Special Agents Conroy and Anderson questioned Subject for a few moments, and laid the proper predicate for further questioning. They then advised Subject Thurmond the necessity and desirability of telling the whole truth in this matter. Accordingly, in the presence of Chief of Police Black, Sheriff Daig, Under Sheriff Hamilton, Special Agents Conroy and Anderson, Agent Vetterli undertook the questioning of Subject Thurmond, who related a lot of fanciful tales, but gradually, step by step, he was taken back over every detail that had been developed, finally admitting the phone call to Charles O'Brien, then admitting writing the letter to Mr. Hart regarding the numeral '2', finally admitting a further phone call to Mr. Hart, and gradually admission was secured regarding the first letter pertaining to the numeral '1', where Mr. Hart was given further instructions, and under further prolonged questioning, he finally admitted the mailing of the post card from Sacramento, California. Then step by step he was led back over the entire matter again, and under close grilling, admitted the telephone call from San Francisco to the home of Mr. Hart on the night of November 2, 1933, stating that he was the last family of the kidnapping of his son, and that they were holding him for \$40,000.

When these admissions were finally secured, and particularly the last admission regarding the telephone call from San Francisco, before any one even knew Hart had been kidnaped, and before this Division had even been called into the case, it was apparent then, of course, that Subject Thurmond really was in on the kidnapping, because no one else even knew at that time that Brooke Hart, the victim, had been kidnaped.

This Subject was thoroughly questioned from eight o'clock Thursday night, November 14, 1933, until about 2:30 a.m., Wednesday morning. This Agent was assisted materially in the aforementioned examination of Subject Thurmond by Special Agent in Charge Conroy, and Special Agent Harold Anderson, and as a result of perfect coordination, at about 2:30 a.m., November 17, 1933, after six and one-half or seven hours, he finally admitted that he had been mixed up in this scheme to kidnap Brooke Hart, and outlined briefly the fact that he and another individual by the name of Jack Holmes, whom he claimed to be from Los Angeles, had kidnaped Hart, and driven him up to the San Mateo Bridge, where they had bound him up, after taking his wallet, and taken the money from it, and had tossed the victim over the San Mateo Bridge into the San Francisco Bay.

Under further questioning he finally admitted that the individual who had assisted him in this case was Subject John H. Holmes, and stated that Holmes separated from his wife on Monday, November 12, 1933, and was now registered at the California Hotel. Accordingly, in conjunction with all present, we immediately took Subject Thurmond to the California Hotel at San Jose, and found that Jack Holmes was registered in room 90, and we took Subject Thurmond up to the room proper, and had him knock on the door, and call for Jack Holmes, which he did, and when Holmes answered, we opened the door, he was immediately taken into custody, and rushed to the Sheriff's office.

The confession which was obtained from Subject Thurmond was then and there immediately reduced to writing, so that an agent have a signed confession in our possession before he was advised not to talk any further, and this confession, a copy of which is on file at the San Jose district office, and the original of which is in the possession of the District Attorney at San Jose, reads as follows:

"I, Thomas Harold Thurmond (Thurmond) voluntarily make this statement to E. J. Wetherill, Edward E. Conroy, Harold E. Anderson, special agents of the United States Department of Justice, and to William J. Hall, Sheriff of Santa Clara County, T. M. Black, Chief of Police of the City of San Jose, and Maria G. Hamilton, County Clerk, that I have known Jack Holmes approximately one year in San Jose, California; that approximately five or six weeks ago he approached me with a plan to kidnap Brooke Hart and hold him for ransom.

"We discussed this matter on one or two occasions and on Thursday, November 9th, 1933, shortly before six o'clock P.M. Jack Holmes and I saw Brooke Hart and towards the morning of where he used to park his Studebaker Sedan, Jack Holmes and I had previously discussed just how we could kidnap Brooke Hart.

Jack Holmes was to get in the car of Brook Hart as it approached Market Street and I was to follow in the Chevrolet coach which belonged to Jack Holmes.

"On this particular 9th of November, 1933, Brook Hart obtained his car from the parking lot and drove out the driveway towards Market Street. Jack Holmes met the car of Brook Hart on the curb and opened the door of Brook Hart's roadster with one hand and had the other in his pocket as though he had a gun. He forced Brook Hart to go away with him. I was parked in Jack Holmes' Chevrolet Coach on Market Street close to Post St. and I saw Jack Holmes drive by in Brook Hart's Studebaker Roadster and according to directions I followed that car.

"In accordance with my prearranged instructions with Jack Holmes as soon as I saw him pass me in Brook Hart's car I proceeded to Milpitas and waited for them at the Spangler Garage. Shortly thereafter Jack Holmes and Brook Hart drove by in the latter's Studebaker roadster and I followed the Studebaker car to a point on the Avare Road about from seven to ten miles from San Jose. When Jack Holmes stopped the Brook Hart Studebaker car at a point on the Avare Road they both got out of the car and Jack Holmes told Brook Hart to get in the back of the Chevrolet coach which I was driving. He then drove a short distance ahead when Jack Holmes who was now driving the Chevrolet Coach turned the car around and headed back to Milpitas with Brook Hart in the back seat. I was sitting at the right of Jack Holmes who was driving the car. We then turned north and drove toward Irvington to Alvarado and then direct to the San Mateo bridge. We stopped about half a mile out on the San Mateo bridge at which time Brook Hart was ordered out of the car and Jack Holmes walked back of the car - to the rear of Brook Hart's car and hit him over the head with a brick which I had obtained at a furniture company in San Jose before we started on this trip with Brook Hart. When Jack Holmes first hit Brook Hart over the head with this brick, he yelled, 'Help, help!' but Jack Holmes hit him over the head again with the brick, and knocked Brook Hart unconscious, and then I took some baling wire from the car which I had previously purchased on the afternoon of the 9th of November, 1933, at a hardware store in Santa Clara for \$1.00 and used it to bind the arms of Brook Hart around his body up close to his shoulders. Jack Holmes then told me to get hold of him - Jack Holmes took half of the upper part of Brook Hart's body and I took hold of him from his knees down, and together we lifted Brook Hart onto the railing of the San Mateo bridge and tossed him into the bay. I recall as we lifted him up onto the San Mateo bridge he struggled slightly.

"We then turned around in the Chevrolet coach and returned to San Jose, California. While we were riding out in the car with Brook Hart before we reached the San Union building, we asked him to turn over his pocket book and money which he did. To the best of my recollection the wallet contained a five (5) dollar bill and two and a half in silver. He divided the money which we obtained from Brook Hart. I kept the wallet in my possession. After we returned to San Jose by agreement I returned to San Francisco in my father's car, a Pontiac car, and it was our understanding that I was to go to San Francisco and from San Francisco to Oakland and carter the wallet into the bay. By agreement I was also to telephone to Mr. Hart from San Francisco advising him that his son was kidnapped and being held for \$40,000.00 ransom.

"I endeavored to put thru this call from a place, which I believe, is in Market Street but the line was busy. I first tried to place the telephone call about nine thirty p.m. on November 22nd, 1933. I then went to the Whitcomb hotel and placed another long distance call to Hart's residence at San Jose at about ten thirty and was successful in completing this call. Some one answered the telephone and I inquired for Mr. Hart and then some girl answered the phone and I told her that her brother was being held for \$40,000.00 ransom and if the family notified the police they would never see Brook Hart again.

"Instead of taking the ferry from San Jose into Oakland to drop the wallet at Brook Hart which I had in my possession, I walked down the water front for two or three blocks and tossed the wallet into the San Francisco bay. I then returned in my father's machine to San Jose, California, arriving in San Jose shortly after midnight.

"On November 23rd, 1933, about 10 o'clock p.m. I left in my father's Pontiac car for Sacramento, California. Jack Holmes had already given me a card with a message for Mr. Hart which I read when Jack Holmes turned it over to me. This message was to the effect that their son, Brook Hart, was dead, but if the ransom was received my son it would be too late, and on this card we also specified the number and bills to make up the \$40,000.00 ransom, and put in future instructions.

"I had obtained an address of Jack Holmes and when I got to Tracy, California I addressed the card to Mr. Hart in which I later stated the card which was printed by Jack Holmes, and mailed this card at Sacramento that night about nine thirty.

or ten o'clock p.m. I remained in Sacramento a few minutes and got a bite to eat and turned around in my father's car and returned to San Jose.

"I didn't see Jack Holmes when I returned that night but I did see him the following morning, and I told him I had mailed the card to Mr. Hart. Jack Holmes then gave me a letter to take to San Francisco to mail to Mr. Hart. This letter was printed by Jack Holmes. I was watching Jack Holmes when he wrote this letter and read the same which specified that Mr. Hart place numeral (1) in the window of this store in San Jose if he was willing to proceed with further negotiations.

"I left San Jose about eleven o'clock A.M. in the morning with this letter in question and I drove to San Francisco in my father's car arriving there shortly after noon, and I mailed the letter to Mr. Hart approximately half an hour after I arrived. I then turned around and came back home to San Jose.

"I did not see Jack Holmes until the following day. Jack Holmes and I both went by Hart's store, Tuesday, November 18th, 1933, and both saw the numeral (1) in the window, and that night in accordance with our agreement Jack Holmes called Charley O'Brien, Jr., a personal friend of Brook Hart's in San Jose and gave Mrs. O'Brien a message to deliver to Mr. Hart demanding further action to be taken by Mr. Hart.

"This call was placed by Jack Holmes from a pay station in the Twink building in which Mr. Hart was to take a match with the \$40,000.00 in it and place same on the seat beside him and drive in Brook Hart's Studebaker roadster towards Los Angeles. After this call had been completed Jack Holmes and I drove to Mountain View and back but we did not see Mr. Hart drive over in the car in question about eight forty-five p.m. I telephoned Mr. Hart after a pay station at Perry's parking lot at San Jose. I asked Mr. Hart why he had not kept his previous appointment and he told me he wanted further proof that we were holding his son, Brook Hart. I then told Mr. Hart he better leave that night and then hung up. When I placed this call to Mr. Hart the Jack Holmes card in the window was still about a block away waiting for me.

"About noon on Wednesday, 19th, 1933, Jack Holmes printed another letter to Mr. Hart in which he stated that I had secured for him. He also addressed the envelope and mailed this letter to the Post Office to Mr. Hart in which letter we advised Mr. Hart that we had been some conversation in our home conversations and outlined to him the telephone from San

Francisco and the card from Sacramento together with the letter in regard to placing the numeral (1) in his window and told him there had been too much publicity but if Mr. Hart was willing to go thru with the negotiations and pay the \$40,000.00 he was to place numeral (2) in place of (1) in his window and was advised if this was done Brock Hart would be returned and advised Mr. Hart to start out at seven thirty p.m. on November 15, 1933, in the Studebaker Roadster for Los Angeles.

"It was our plan if Mr. Hart started out with this money in question I was to drive Jack Holmes' car and he was to stand on the running board of the car and as we passed Mr. Hart's car Jack Holmes was to reach out and grab the money.

"At about five forty-five P.M. November 15, 1933, I met Jack Holmes at Normandin-Campen's garage—Jack Holmes told me that the numeral (2) had been placed in Hart's window and he had seen it.

"Jack Holmes was having a loose screw in the back of his radio fixed in the garage in question.

"We then decided to telephone Mr. Hart again and at about seven twelve of November 15, 1933, we drove the car in the vicinity of the Montgomery Hotel and Jack Holmes endeavored to get in touch with Mr. Hart thru a pay telephone.

"We then drove to Fugler's Drug Store at Tenth and Davis Streets and Jack Holmes again tried to get in touch with Mr. Hart at seven nineteen P.M.

"We then went to Sabatini Bros. garage at 222 South Market Street and I telephoned Mr. Hart from a pay phone which was located in the rear end of the garage and told Mr. Hart that I had seen the serial number in the window and Mr. Hart should get Charley O'Brien or some member of his family and have them drive the car and to do so at once. I told Mr. Hart I wanted his answer definitely five P.M. I told Mr. Hart that the driver of the car would be told where he could pick up Brock Hart as soon as he paid the money. I told Mr. Hart I was one of the boys who wrote the letter on November the 15th. I also told Mr. Hart that I had received my orders from headquarters and that was all I could say. About the time I finished my story I was taken into custody by Sheriff Eng.

(Signed) THOMAS R. THOMPSON.

It should be noted there are one or two errors in this confession, which was dictated most hurriedly. In that portion of the confession where they had Brooks Hart, out on the San Mateo bridge, it is stated that Holmes walked back of the car to the rear of Frank's car. This is the only primary error. This, of course, should have been "to the rear of Subject Holmes' car".

Subject Thurmond later verbally told us that the car belonging to Subject Holmes was in the garage across the street from the Police Station, from which point Subject Thurmond had placed the last telephone call to Mr. Hart, admitting they had a gun in their possession, a .41 caliber Colt, which was supposed to be under the rear seat of this car. Accordingly, at the garage in question, a Chevrolet Coach was pointed out by Subject Thurmond, which bore California license 360437. A thorough search of this car failed to locate the gun in question. However, a pair of gloves belonging to Subject Thurmond were found in the car in the side pocket.

Subject Holmes was carefully questioned, but failed to be involved in this case at all, stating he did not know that it was all over, having nothing whatsoever to do with it. He refused to make any statement or admission whatsoever. However, he was advised by the agents that in view of the confession of Subject Thurmond implicating him, that he was told that he too should tell the truth in this matter, and he stated he had nothing to say at that time, but would think the matter over.

Early the next morning, in view of the fact that word had been spread that the bombers had been apprehended, and Brooks Hart killed, it appearing that public feeling had been aroused at San Francisco, California, Sheriff Paul and Agent Vetterli departed immediately with Subject Thurmond for San Francisco, via the San Mateo bridge, at which point Subject Thurmond was escorted to point out the approximate spot where the victim had been exposed over the San Mateo bridge from the San Francisco Bay. Thurmond was immediately placed into action, with grueling work, in an effort to locate the point in question, in an effort to locate the body of the victim. Subject Thurmond was immediately brought into San Francisco, and placed at the Hall of Justice at San Francisco, to avoid a lynching party at San Jose.

During the afternoon of November 17th, Sheriff Paul, Vetterli, and Subject Thurmond, Special Agents Robert and Anderson, visited Subject Holmes out of the County Jail at San Jose, and in conversation with other law enforcement officials, advised him for San Francisco, also, and on that day thoroughly questioned Subject Holmes, and by the time they arrived

San Jose, they were ready to leave, and as a result of this conversation, Subject Holmes made the following signed confession, regarding his participation in this case. When he was through making the confession, he stated he had made one because he had decided to follow the advice given him by Sheriff Paul and Agent Vetterli, and Anderson, and acknowledged the same. He stated that he had decided to follow the advice given him by Sheriff Paul and Agent Vetterli, and Anderson, and acknowledged the same.

After making the same to be true, and affixed his signature by Sheriff Ellis, Special Agents Conroy, and Sheriff Hamilton. The confession reads as follows:

"Potrero Station, 16, 1933. One o'clock P.M. Statement made in the presence of Mr. J. Ellis, Sheriff of Santa Clara County, Charles G. Hamilton, Deputy Sheriff, and Bernard Reporter.

"I, John Maurice Holmes, Sheriff of Santa Clara County, Deputy Sheriff at one o'clock November, 1933, make this statement:

"That I have known one year; that he and I went to a of days before this kidnapping. In -no, I guess it was two days before there he grabbed me by the arm, indicating and says, 'There goes the up we could get a piece of change, where would you want him?' and we that out.' Frankly, I said that in two lets—and I thought he was just he said that it could be done right could and he said 'Yes' to you say he said, 'I guess he come out of the o'clock and that is what gave me do you say that we watch and see if day? At this time we were driving drove down by the parking lot.

"He said, 'Let's and see when he comes out again.' do as I was around the oil company. for work and I guess went away. there at three o'clock and stopped. We drove there on the 5th of November. He waited there until I got tired. he quit and watch further he could be going over and have some beer in the mill.

"He is that white. we sat there until one o'clock and he came out until this fellow Brooks came

session, he acknowledged the photo, and same was witnessed by me, and Vetterli, and Underhills:

San Francisco, November 16, 1933. John Maurice Holmes, Sheriff of Santa Clara County, and Belinda M. Callagher.

was in the presence of county and Charles G. Hamilton, on the 16th day of November, 1933, and voluntarily:

"I told Thurmond for about one afternoon a couple of it was the day before, and after we came out of it no just like that (in part--if we got pick him of him, I said, 'Yes, I would have to figure idea did not appeal to me like through his hat. But say. I said, 'I guess if we watch these boys, I'd like to see three ideas'. He said, 'What comes out that time of, and talking and

"I around and watch him. I don't have anything to in that morning looking. So and we pulled up. He was on the way. and as we waited there. told Harold to be waited in the car that I was not waiting there in the

"He is that white. we sat there until one o'clock and he came out until this fellow Brooks came and his dad came out.

I had arranged beforehand to meet Harold at Milpitas. I passed him on the way and then he began to follow me. There were several cars along the road but I continued to Evans Road where I had him stop, and Harold came up with the other car. I told Hart to get out and get in the other car which he did. I then gave the gun to Harold and said, 'Hold this on him while I go back and wipe off the doors and steering wheel.'

"By Sheriff Baig: That was to eliminate any fingerprints being on there?"

"Yes. I wanted to eliminate any fingerprints. On the way out Brooke Hart asked for a cigarette which I gave him out of his pocket. I didn't get the pack back in his pocket but it dropped in the seat—I had intended to continue on that road and go to Oakland Highway but in a short time I remembered the cigarettes on the seat and I turned the car around and went back and picked up the cigarettes and gave them to Hart. We then proceeded back the way we came originally to Milpitas and then turned to the right and followed the highway to the San Mateo bridge. Before we got there he discussed what to do, and first the idea was to take him into Oakland and get an apartment or a room in a rooming house, and Harold made the mistake of talking too loud and naturally he was quite excited and we told him as long as he behaved himself he wouldn't be hurt. Just a minute, I am getting ahead of my story—it is about that wire and a couple of concrete blocks.

"By Sheriff Baig: Harold got those?

"Yes, whole the blocks, the two concrete blocks from Reilly and Chimer in San Francisco, when we passed on from that point.

"By Sheriff Baig: Did you go to Mr. Adams?

"Yes, and on the way up Market said, 'If we dump this guy it would be all right and write a note and get a quick turn-around before they get too worried.' I said, 'How are you going to tie him up?' and he said, 'We will tie him up before we get out of the car.' I said, 'That is going to be a real awkward business but also provided a pillow all the way over this guy's head so as to comfort him. When we got to Mr. Adams it seemed something like that and I said, 'All right if you think you can handle it.'

"By Sheriff Baig: How was your riding?

at that time?

Toy Sheriff Baig: Hart was in the back seat.

"Yes, and Harold had the gun held on him. When we got to the middle of the San Mateo Bridge and by the draw there was no cars around and Harold ordered Hart out of the car, and he got out and didn't know where he was after that this pillow slip over his head. Harold said loud enough to be heard, 'How am I going to tie this guy up?' I said 'Heck, that is no trick you can do that as the man stands here.' He will stand while you tie him.' We told him to believe he was going to be transferred from one machine to another, and while we were going that, getting ready to do that Hart got fussing around and a car came by and he started to shout, and I hauled off and hit him with my fist. I guess he hit his head on the concrete as he fell as he laid quite still a few minutes. Then Harold reached in the car and got the wire and started wrapping his feet and hands, and at that time he passed me the gun. I don't think after that Hart ever wiggled out of it—I think he hit the gun. I was watching him and he fell. I hit him with my fist. I hit him pretty hard as I wanted him to know that we meant business. After that we were holding the gun on him so if he decided to get up again I intended to smother him with it. Harold got the two concrete blocks and tied them around his feet and we tossed him overboard. After that I don't know what I did but we got the water around him and he made some sound and I came around and Harold said 'Give me that gun.' and he climbed down off the stringers and fired the cartridges that were in the pistol where he lay down. I would be. After that he said he thought he hit him but he wasn't sure.

While he was doing that I drove up the bridge ways and turned around and came back. I looked for Harold on the same side of the bridge to find some action but I didn't see him coming back and I didn't see the falling on the other side of the bridge and looking down in the water. He climbed down on the stringers on the other side of the bridge and listened for some disturbance but he was satisfied there wasn't any because I was not in the car. I heard him make a sound and I thought he was not sure he was dead. I don't think he will ever come back again. I was there we came back into San Jose where we separated.

Toy Sheriff Baig:

At what point did you separate, Jack?

I don't know where I went.

Q. Where did you go? A. I went directly home.

Q. Do you know where Harold went? A. Direct to San Francisco, may be he went home first. I don't know. What time did he phone?

Q. About ten thirty? A. Yes, that would be about right.

Q. Just what was the arrangement about the telephoning?

A. Harold--we discussed the amount to ask for and it was decided it would be \$40,000.00--that we should demand about \$40,000.00--that was before we separated we talked about that--that was Thursday. Then we separated I said, We better not see each other again until Monday, and we didn't. Before we separated we both discussed the deed we had done and well, we were appalled at it. I said, 'I never thought I could participate in a thing like that, and Harold said he didn't know how he ever could have done it either. We then decided as long as it was done to go thru with the plan on it. Harold went to San Francisco and I went home.

Q. To agree to meet Monday, the 13th of November, 1933, and the card was written stating our demands, and Harold mailed it in Sacramento that night.

Q. Who wrote the card? A. The first one was both of us.

Q. Both wrote part of it? A. Yes. Then I didn't see Harold again until the following day. Sunday Harold brought along a car and some evidence and came and I saw him. He was with a directing Mr. Hart. He drove south on the Los Angeles highway with the car. He did not do as he was told and he drove back to town and Harold called him and threatened him. If he didn't bring the car at once, Wednesday, the last date was written with explicit instructions as to the route he was to follow. Harold called again and I wrote the note that was mailed in San Jose. I took our car to Sacramento to be repaired. What is to have the radio fixed, and called for it at five thirty. Harold was with him when I called for the car. I got him down town. We debated about phoning Mr. Hart. We made several calls but realized that we were being checked on and left without contacting Mr. Hart. The last thing I saw was at the place garage where Harold went in to use the telephone while I was parked outside. Harold was waiting for me. I saw the car and I saw Mr. Hart.

Q. How long that I made a couple of rounds of the block in my car. I saw Mr. Hart at the place. I left the car and drove around the block and then parked the car in the place garage and went in. I saw Mr. Hart at the place. I saw Mr. Hart at the place.

2. Harold had the gun. He made some crack about that gun earlier in the day and said he couldn't find it.

at this time, freely and voluntarily without any threats or violence from anyone or has anyone made me any promises of any kind.

*Dated the 15th of Nov, 1923.

JOHN M. JONES.

W. J. Ewig.
Edward H. Conroy,
Paul E. Heston,
Harold E. Anderson,
Eugene G. Heston.

The original of this confession is kept in the possession of the District Attorney at San Jose, California.

I neglected to state above that while in the Sheriff's Jail, San Jose, California, we had with subject Holmes and the two thousand bribe on a piece of paper from the State Prison on the first part which was folded from bottom into top. At the bottom of Victim in this case, which they printed in capital letters, and to which they filed their signatures, had the phrase, San Jose, California, and the date. The letters printed appeared in which subjects signed the signatures, are both on file in the San Francisco Division Office as exhibits. There is a marked similarity between the printing of Subject Holmes and subject mentioned when these exhibits are compared with the printing on the letters received by Dr. Hart.

[illegible][illegible]

answer form, and will be transcribed within the next day or two, and the Division will be apprised of the particulars.

However, in this detailed question and answer statement, Subject Thompson admitted many additional details not included in his first confession. He outlined briefly how he and Subject Holmes had originally planned this kidnaping, had purchased the bricks, and had purchased wire with the sole purpose in mind of kidnaping young Hart and doing away with him, and then demanding the ransom thereafter. He stated it was planned first to pull the kidnaping on Tuesday, November 7th, but that Subject Holmes had attended the funeral of his wife's grandmother, and had to take the family home some Italian dinners, from town, and would not go through with the plan that night. On the following night, November 8, 1933, Mr. A. P. Hart accompanied his son to the parking lot, and again thwarted their kidnaping plans, but on November 9th, according to a pre-arranged scheme, Subject Holmes, who had in his possession the .41 caliber gun, which was the property of Subject Thompson, jumped on the running board of the car of Victim Hart, as it approached the street from the parking lot, and at the point of the revolver forced Hart, the Victim, to accompany him, and in the Studebaker Roadster they drove out to a garage at Wilpita, California, in accordance with their scheme, and Subject Thompson was waiting there in possession of Subject Holmes car, which he had also driven to that point.

Subject Thompson then followed the Studebaker Roadster, which Subject Holmes was forcing Victim Hart to drive, and outside of town a few miles they abandoned the Hart Roadster, and they forced Victim Hart to go into the back seat of the Chevrolet Coach, and while Subject Holmes drove his own personal car, Subject Thompson sat on the right hand side of the driver's seat, but was facing Victim Hart, and bore a revolver. They then drove to the San Mateo Bridge, and before reaching the bridge they placed a pillow slip over the head of Victim Hart, which Subject Thompson admitted he had taken from the bed of his nephew at his own home at San Jose, California. Further, that on this trip they demanded the wallet of Subject Hart, and all his money, which he turned over to them, which they admitted to be \$7.50, one \$5.00 bill, and \$2.50 in change. Subject Holmes took the \$2.50 in change, while Subject Thompson was given the \$5.00 bill.

On the way out Victim Hart conversed with Subjects, and told them it was a rather awful experience for him, and thought he was being held up, and asked them what they wanted. They had a radio in their car, and Victim Hart asked them what kind of a radio it was. About a half a mile out on the San Mateo Bridge, Victim Hart was taken from the car, and as Victim Hart faced the direction off the bridge at the rear of the car, Subject Thompson turned over the gun to Subject Holmes, and as Subject Thompson started the car to get in to get the coast block, Subject Holmes slipped up in back of Victim Hart, and hit him over the head with the gun, according to the detailed statement of Thompson.

The Victim then screamed, and yelled "Help, Help, what are you trying to do". In order to obviate any suspicion, the pillow slip had been taken from the head of the Victim. The Victim after being hit on the head, fell down in a sitting position onto the bridge proper, and then while Subject Holmes held the Victim, Subject Thurmond strapped one of these cement blocks, which had two holes through it, which weighed about twenty pounds, to the ankles of Hart. The wire was passed through the holes in the cement block so that it would weight him down on his feet, then the second block was placed in the middle of the back of Brooke Hart, about even with the arm pits, and wire was placed around his body, pinning the upper portion of his body, and was also run through the holes in the cement block, and wired to the body of Hart. When Subject Holmes first hit Hart over the head with the gun, he accidentally dropped the gun, and one shot of the gun exploded, doing no damage. Then Subject Holmes took hold of the upper part of the Victim's body, while he was crying and uttering, and Subject Thurmond took hold of the legs of the Victim Hart, and they lifted him up over the railing of the bridge, and dropped the Victim into the San Francisco Bay. As soon as the Victim hit the water, the lower part of his arms being free, he tried to paddle a little bit, and float. Then Subject Holmes grabbed the gun and fired one shot at the Victim while he lay in the water. It is not known whether this shot took effect.

Then Subject Holmes asked Subject Thurmond if he could swim, and the latter said a little bit, but not very well, and accordingly Subject Thurmond took the gun, climbed out on the side of the pillars of the bridge, which is really off the bridge proper, and from this vantage place Thurmond fired the three remaining shots in the spot in the water where he thought the Victim might be. Then Subject Thurmond climbed back onto the bridge, Subject Holmes had driven the car up about one hundred yards, turned around on the bridge and picked up Subject Thurmond, and they headed back towards the Oakland side of the bridge, then drove towards San Jose again, and about two city blocks from where they tossed the Victim into the bay, Subject Thurmond and Holmes tossed out the remaining cement block, which they had purchased, and the remaining piece of wire, into the San Francisco Bay, and they then returned to San Jose, after which Subject Thurmond, in accordance with instructions from Subject Holmes, came to San Francisco, and placed the telephone call in question to the residence of Mr. Hart the night of the kidnapping, and later put through the other telephone calls, and on November 10th, Friday, Subject Holmes prepared the first post card which was mailed from Sacramento, and Subject Thurmond took this card, and in accordance with instructions from Subject Holmes, went to Sacramento, and there mailed it to Mr. A. F. Hart.

Further that on November 11th Subject Thurmond came to San Francisco and mailed another letter to Mr. Hart, which Subject Holmes had printed at San Jose, and in which reference is made to placing the numeral "1" in Hart's window, and outlining further instructions. He also admitted that he, Thurmond, and Subject Holmes, had arranged to send a further

letter, and on October 15th, this further letter was printed by Subject Holmes in front of the Y.M.C.A. at San Jose, California, which instructed Mr. Hart to place a numeral "2" in his window. At the examination the Subject Thurnmond was shown photographic copies of the letters in question, and he compared them with the original letters through the cellophane that covers them, and after having identified them, he found his initials to the photographic copies of all these letters, and on which were also affixed the initials of Special Agent in Charge E. J. Conroy, and the date, November 17, 1935. The numeral "1", which was placed in Hart's window, in accordance with instructions received from the kidnapers, was seen in the window by Subject Thurnmond. This numeral "1" was prepared by Special Agent in Charge Conroy and accordingly has been marked for identification purposes as an exhibit by Mr. Conroy, Agent Vetterli, Agent Ramsey, and also initialed by Subject Thurnmond. The numeral "2", with the words "I cannot drive", prepared by Special Agent Vetterli, was not seen by Subject Thurnmond, according to his admission. However, it is also in the San Francisco file, and initialed for identification purposes by Agents Conroy, Vetterli, and Ramsey.

Late the night of the 17th, the spent, black and wire, which was passed over the bridge about two blocks from where the Victim's body was thrown over into the Bay, were recovered by the searching parties. The body of the Victim has not as yet been located.

Based upon the information reported from San Francisco, as set forth in the report of reference, Special Agent Garaghty proceeded to Sacramento, California, and together with law enforcement officials, endeavored to locate and make a search of the cabins in the vicinity of Sacramento, California, with a view to locating the Victim, or obtaining some information concerning him. No results were obtained, however.

The descriptions of both Subjects are as follows:

Name	John H. Holmes	Thomas J. Thurnmond
Age	29 years.	28 years.
Height	5' 3/4".	5' 10".
Weight	155 lbs.	147 lbs.
Hair	Chestnut.	Light chestnut.
Eyes	Blue.	Blue.
Complexion		Medium fair.
Marks, scars, etc.	Chin dimpled.	
Race	White.	White.
S.F. Police No.	50890.	53591.
Residence	Bird Avenue, San Jose, Calif.	San Jose, Calif.
Place of Birth	California	California.
Fingerprints	1 12 13 1 14	1 R 8 Ref. 1 1 R 2 3 4

Efforts are being made at the present time to secure a duplicate set of fingerprints of both Subjects, and if possible, a duplicate set will be affixed hereto to be forwarded to the Division with copies of this report.

Under separate cover, properly wrapped in cellophane envelopes, received by the Division all the original letters, with attention in the Schenck Case, Division Unit. After the detailed examination had been secured from Subject Murmond, Subject Holmes was questioned, but on advice of counsel refused to make any statement, and advised he will enter a plea of not guilty on either the State charge of kidnapping or murder. He refused to discuss any matter of this case any further. Accordingly, in connection with the examination of the original letters and envelopes, it is recommended that the attention be given with a view to developing the fingerprints of Subject Holmes on these original letters, so that he might be tied in further and more definitely with this case, and to prove conclusively he was involved in the same. The other original letters and envelopes are being retained in the San Francisco office.

On November 17, 1935, efforts were made to get in touch with Mr. H. E. Burke, United States Attorney at San Francisco, with a view of presenting the attention angle of this case. Mr. Burke's office advised Mr. Murphy is in Sacramento on important matters, and will return to San Francisco on November 18th, and accordingly it is expected to contact him today, and the matter will be handled for his opinion.

In connection with the letters received by C. Hart, as they were received by him at San Jose, the letters were, of course, opened by Agents of the Division. In the presence of Mr. Hart, who was with him, some of the letters were read to him, and he was asked to recall the various peculiarities in the words, as indicated in the original, which were specifically called to his attention as they were received through the United States mails, so that Mr. Hart will be in a position to testify when the necessary time arises.

Both Subjects are still confined at the Hall of Justice, San Francisco, California.

PENDING

U. S. Department of Justice

Bureau of Investigation
318 Hewes Building
San Francisco, California.

RE: 12
Refer file
87-27.

November 26, 1933.

Director,
Bureau of Investigation,
Department of Justice,
Washington, D. C.

Re: THOMAS W. CHAPMAN
JOHN M. HOLMES
ERNEST L. BART - Victim.
Kidnaping.

Dear Sir:

Kindly furnish the known criminal record of the following:

Name (inc. aliases)	City, Police Arrest, or Other Number.	Approximate Date Fingerprints for- warded Bureau of Investigation.	Fingerprint Classifica- tion.
JOHN M. HOLMES	San Francisco, California, Police No. 50390	11/18/33	1 An 3 1 An 3

Very truly yours,

R. E. Vetterli

R. E. VETTERLI
Special Agent in Charge

RECORDED

7-375-20
BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Reply
11-28-33

LC3:IMW
L17. 316 57-376-20

RECORDED

DEC 4 - 1933

November 28, 1933.

Special Agent in Charge,
Division of Investigation,
U. S. Department of Justice,
318 News Building,
San Francisco, California.

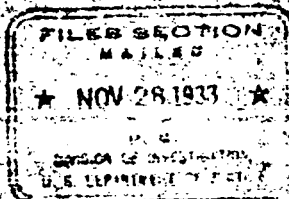
Re: THOMAS E. TURNER.
JOHN M. HOLMES.
BROCK L. KATZ - Victim.
Kidnapping.

Dear Sir:

In reply to your letter of November 20, 1933,
regarding JOHN M. HOLMES, please be advised that the
following is the criminal record of this individual as
reflected by the Division's fingerprint files:

Subject as John M. Holmes, #30891, arrested Police
Department, San Francisco, California, November 16, 1933,
charge kidnapping and murder (en route to San Jose,
California).

Very truly yours,



U. S. Department of Justice
Bureau of Investigation

318 Fessenden Building
San Francisco, California.

REY: D
Ref: 510
57-27.

November 20, 1933.

Director,
Bureau of Investigation,
Department of Justice,
Washington, D. C.

Re: THOMAS E. THURMOND
JOHN M. POLKES
BROOKS L. HART - Victim.
Kidnaping.

Dear Sir:

Kindly furnish the known criminal record of the following:

Name (inc. aliases)	City, Police Arrest, or Other Number.	Approximate Date Fingerprints for- warded Bureau of Investigation.	Fingerprint Classifica- tion.
THOMAS E. THURMOND	San Francisco, California Police No. 50391.	11/18/33	I R S I R - Ref. I R R -

Very truly yours,

R. E. Vetterli

R. E. VETTERLI
Special Agent in Charge

7-375-21

DEC 4 - 1933

LCB:EM

Div: file #7-373-21

RECORDED

November 28, 1933.

DEC 4 - 1933

Special Agent in Charge,
Division of Investigation,
U. S. Department of Justice,
318 News Building,
San Francisco, California.

Re: THOMAS E. THURGOOD.
JOHN M. HOLMES.
BROOKS L. RABT - Victim,
Kidnapping.

Dear Sir:

In reply to your letter of November 20, 1933,
regarding THOMAS E. THURGOOD, please be advised that the
following is the criminal record of this individual as
reflected by the Division's fingerprint files:

Subject as Thurl Thurgood, #50000, arrested Police
Department, San Francisco, California, November 16, 1933,
charge kidnapping and murder (en route to San Jose,
California).

Very truly yours,

Director.

RECEIVED
DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
NOV 29 1933

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

Division of Investigation

U. S. Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

November 17, 1933.

Mr. Nathan	_____
Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Clegg	_____
Mr. Edwards	_____
Mr. Egan	_____
Mr. Glavin	_____
Mr. Ladd	_____
Mr. Nichols	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Tracy	_____
Mr. Carson	_____
Mr. Coffey	_____
Mr. Hendon	_____
Mr. Jones	_____
Mr. Quinn	_____
Mr. Nease	_____
Mr. Gurnea	_____
Mr. Harbo	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. Pennington	_____
Mr. Nease	_____
Mr. Gurnea	_____
Mr. Harbo	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. Pennington	_____

MEMORANDUM

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR.

Agent in Charge Vetterli called me on the telephone last night at 11 o'clock and stated that they had not found the body of the Hart boy but that they had secured a complete confession from Holmes, the second kidnaper. Agent in Charge Vetterli stated that inasmuch as he, Agent in Charge Conroy and Agent Andersen had been up for two nights he felt that they would all take a rest last night inasmuch as there is nothing more to be done excepting the finding of the body and the police were taking care of that. He stated that they proposed, that is Conroy, Vetterli and Andersen, proposed to return to San Francisco. They would leave an Agent, however, at San Jose in touch with the police. I told him I felt that this was entirely satisfactory and that they ought to get some rest.

Respectfully,

V. W. Hughes

V. W. Hughes

*As soon as possible
Conroy & Andersen
should be returned
to Kansas City*

NOV 22 1933
11/17/33

7-375-22

NOV 21 1933

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

Division of Investigation

U. S. Department of Justice

Washington, D. C.

November 18, 1933.

Mr. Nathan _____
Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Edwards _____
Mr. Egan _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Mr. Carson _____
Mr. Coffey _____
Mr. Hendon _____
Mr. Lester _____
Mr. Quinn _____
Mr. Nease _____
Mr. Gurnea _____
Mr. Harbo _____
Mr. Mohr _____
Mr. Pennington _____
Mr. Nease _____
Mr. Gurnea _____
Mr. Harbo _____
Mr. Mohr _____
Mr. Pennington _____

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR.

I called Agent in Charge Vetterli at San Francisco to inquire if there is any reason why Conroy and Andersen should remain there. He stated "no", excepting they had a conference scheduled this morning with the United States Attorney to determine whether the United States Attorney would present the extortion case in the Hart murder and kidnaping to the Grand Jury on Monday; that if the United States Attorney does go forward with this action both Conroy and Andersen will be needed before the Grand Jury, but if the United States Attorney decides that he will not take this action, in view of the fact that both men are held by the state for murder and kidnaping, then Conroy and Andersen will leave this afternoon for Kansas City.

I inquired relative to reports and fingerprints. He stated that the one preliminary report had been sent forward and he would endeavor to finish the complete report today and send it by air mail. He stated that he understood the Police Department had sent in the fingerprints. I told him to inquire of the Police Department this morning and if they had not sent them in for him to arrange to immediately send them by air mail.

I inquired relative to the newspaper reports concerning a woman being involved in the case. Agent in Charge Vetterli stated there was absolutely nothing to such a report, that there had been some marital difficulties prior to the kidnaping but they had no connection at all with the kidnaping.

Respectfully,

V. F. Hughes

RECORDED

NOV 22 1933

7-375-23	
DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION	
NOV 21 1933	
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	

WOMAN QUESTIONED IN HART MURDER

Admits Holmes Asked Her to
Elope, but She Refused—
Not Held by Authorities.

WITH HIM ON DEATH NIGHT

Married Couples Went to a Show
—Hunt for Body Goes On After
Finding of Concrete Block.

SAN FRANCISCO, Nov. 18 (AP).—Guarded closely against lynchism, Thomas H. Thurmond was taken today from the city prison to San Mateo Bridge to point out the place where he and John M. Holmes threw into San Francisco Bay the trussed and unconscious Brooke Hart, whom they confessed they kidnapped for ransom.

Two divers and an airplane were added to the forces searching for the body of the 22-year-old son of a wealthy San Jose merchant.

The divers were sent into the water where investigators found a bloodstain on the bridge rail and near where police found a concrete block like those Thurmond had said were used to make sure that Hart's body would stay at the bottom of the bay.

In San Jose Sheriff Emig made public a statement given to him and two deputies by a young married woman who said that she "kept company" with Holmes when they were 16 or 17 years old, and that Holmes had recently asked her to go away with him. She had not taken the proposal seriously, she added. She was not held.

Questioned by newspaper men, she denied that there had been any romance between her and Holmes. She and her husband and Mr. and Mrs. Holmes had played bridge and gone to shows together, she said.

Admitted Attachment for Men
Sheriff Emig expressed the opinion that Holmes had plotted the kidnapping to get money for his

proposed elopement. He said that Holmes had admitted being in love with the woman.

Her statement said that she had never discussed money matters with Holmes, that she did not know him well enough. Fire questioners insisted that money must have been mentioned when Holmes suggested an elopement, but she denied it.

"There was no intention of my part of doing any such thing," she said, according to the Sheriff, "as I would not be interested in any money matters. I had no intention of leaving my husband or going with Holmes."

The statement added she had discussed the situation with Mrs. Holmes, telling her that I had no intention of going away with her husband or leaving my husband. I told her I did not want to take her husband, I never tried," she added. "So we parted very good friends."

Went to Theatre That Night.

Investigators paid particular attention to part of the statement saying that the woman and her husband and Mr. and Mrs. Holmes had gone to a motion picture show the night of the kidnapping. She fixed the time as "between 7:30 and 8, possibly a quarter to 8."

Young Hart was kidnapped about 6 o'clock, and about 7:15 P. M. two men collecting firewood near the San Mateo Bridge heard calls for help. It previously had been thought that they had actually heard Hart, since Thurmond's purported confession said that Hart had been "knocked unconscious when he cried for help."

The Sheriff declined to comment on the implied discrepancy in the two bits of evidence.

Relatives of Holmes and Thurmond indicated today that the two would enter insanity pleas. District Attorney Fred Thomas of Santa Clara County, deciding not to take the time for a grand jury investigation, asked Sheriff Emig to sign kidnapping complaints that the men might be brought to trial on a capital charge as soon as possible.

Cries of "lynch him" were shouted last night by persons in a crowd gathered outside the San Francisco Department of Justice headquarters as Thurmond, who had been taken there for questioning, was brought out to be returned to the prison.

Despite the cries, guards easily cleared a path through the crowd and Thurmond was hustled into an automobile and driven away. To avert against possible mob action the two men were brought to San Francisco from San Jose after arrest.

New York Times
Nov 18, 1933

7-375-24

NOT RECORDED

11-

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DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION

Room 318

11/20

1933.

- To: ☒ Director
- ☐ Mr. Nathan
- ☐ Mr. Edwards
- ☐ Mr. Clegg
- ☐ Mr. Lester
- ☐ Miss Gandy
- ☐ Miss Finnell
- ☐ Chief Clerk
- ☐ Chief, Unit
- ☐ Personnel Files
- ☐ Files
- ☐ Printing Section
- ☐ Supervisor, Steno. Pool
- ☐ Inspector
- ☐ Miss Sheaffer

Mr. Nathan	
Mr. Edwards	
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Lester	
Miss Gandy	
Miss Finnell	
Chief Clerk	
Chief, Unit	
Personnel Files	
Files	
Printing Section	
Supervisor, Steno. Pool	
Inspector	
Miss Sheaffer	

*I think they should
be very careful
in the regard
Please call Vetterli at
once & tell him to stop
taking these two criminal
out to jail. If they should
be released while in our
custody it would be
terrible*

11/20 Clyde S. G. H.

Back of

NOT RECORDED

7-

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

Division of Investigation

U. S. Department of Justice

Washington, D. C.

November 20, 1933.

WMA:DSH

Mr. Nathan	
Mr. Tolson	
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Glavin	
Mr. Ladd	
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tracy	
Mr. Carson	
Mr. Egan	
Mr. Gurnea	
Mr. Harbo	
Mr. Hendon	
Mr. Lester	
Mr. Quinn	
Mr. Nease	

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

10-17-33
Bridgman

Promptly upon receipt of the attached newspaper clipping with your memorandum, I called Agent in Charge Vetterli, who stated that they had taken Thurmond and Holmes, the murderers of young Hart at San Francisco, to the local office on one occasion only, that that was last Saturday when, because of the numerous people around the jail, both he and Conroy felt that they could interrogate them more satisfactorily at the local office. Mr. Vetterli stated that contrary to the newspaper observation there was no crowd outside; that there were a few people around and there was no indication or evidence of any possible violence. He stated that they would have no further occasion to carry these men to the local office and any further interrogation would be conducted at the jail. I told him that under no circumstances should they be taken out of the jail for us or in our custody. I inquired whether there had been any further developments. He stated there had not been; that the United States Attorney was in another division of the district and would return tomorrow. In the meantime the state is planning to indict them for murder, if the body can be found, and if not, then to indict them for kidnapping, which carries capital punishment.

Respectfully,

WMA
W. F. Hughes



NOV 22 1933

RECORDED

7-375-24

NOV 22 1933

U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

INVESTMENT BLDG
15th & K STS., N.Y.
Phone National 5500 BR

Postal Telegraph

THE INTERNATIONAL SYSTEM



The following Telegram Columns or Telegram Columns are subject to the rates in the column.

1	Day Letter
2	Day Letter
3	Day Letter
4	Day Letter
5	Day Letter
6	Day Letter
7	Day Letter
8	Day Letter
9	Day Letter
10	Day Letter

Page 16

12-12-33
DIRECTOR
DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION
DEPT. OF JUSTICE
CHART KIDNAPING EXTORTION ANGLE
PRESENTED FEDERAL GRAND JURY
HERE THIS MORNING

- Mr. Nathan
- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. Clegg
- Mr. Egan
- Mr. Glavin
- Mr. Ladd
- Mr. Nichols
- Mr. Rosen
- Mr. Tracy
- Mr. Carson
- Mr. Coffey
- Mr. Hendon
- Mr. Jones
- Mr. Quinn
- Mr. Nease
- Mr. Gurnea
- Mr. Harbo
- Mr. Mohr
- Mr. Pennington
- Mr. Nease
- Mr. Gurnea
- Mr. Harbo
- Mr. Mohr
- Mr. Pennington

RECORDED
4-23-1933

7-375-25
NOV 23 1933
FILE

Telephone Your Telegrams to Postal Telegraph

JEN:SC3

November 21, 1933.

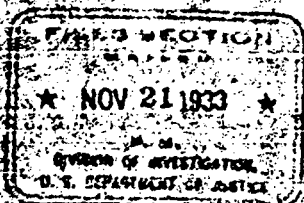
Mr. John T. Vance,
Law Librarian,
Library of Congress,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Vance:

I was sorry I was not in the office last week when you called by phone to express your kindly sentiments concerning the work which our Division performed in the Hart kidnaping case at San Jose, California. While the case is closed in so far as the identity and apprehension of the perpetrators of this crime is concerned, yet it will no doubt go down in history as one of the most vicious of murders.

I want to thank you sincerely for being so thoughtful as to call up and express your commenda-
tion.

With best regards, I am



RECORDED

INDEXED

7-375-26

NOV 24 1933

MAILED

Commercial
Cables



411 America
Guthrie

Stacks

Radio

Please enter half-size Thompson Submachine Gun Magazine without extension clip visible as required by the above or as the authority requires.	
No.	Date July 1937
No.	Import Number
No.	Import Certificate
No.	Shipping Order
No.	Single Ship Certificate
No.	Single Ship Certificate Extension
	Registration

GA SANFRANCISCO CALIF 22 238P

US DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE WASHN DC

TODAY SEVEN COUNTS ONE CONSPIRACY THREE COUNTS SENDING

COUNTA EXTENSION

VETTERLI.

NOV 25 1933

RECORDED

1-375-27
DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION
NOV 24 1936 P.M.
RECEIVED
U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE
FILE

Mr. Nathan
Mr. Tenen
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Edwards
Mr. Egan
Mr. H. C. ...
Mr. Quinn
Mr. Lester
Mr. Locke

SPCL

November 23, 1933.

RECORDED 7-375-27

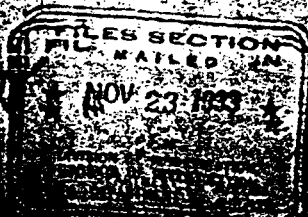
NOV 23 1933

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

In connection with the kidnaping and murder of Brockton Hart at San Jose, California on November 9, 1933, I wish to advise that an indictment containing seven counts, three of which charge the sending of threatening letters through the mails, three charging extortion and one charging conspiracy, was returned at San Francisco, California on November 22, 1933, against Harold T. Raymond and John M. Malone who have been arrested and confessed to committing this crime.

Respectfully,

Director.



K
W
R E VETTERLI
DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION
U S DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
318 HENRY BUILDING
SAN FRANCISCO CALIFORNIA

CAL:CH November 23, 1935.

THOMAS H THURMAN KIDNAPING EXTORTION LETTER SPECIMENS ALL WRITTEN ONE PERSON
SECURE AND FORWARD IMMEDIATELY SPECIMENS PENCIL PRINTING TWO SUBJECTS FOR
IDENTIFICATION INCLUDE SEVERAL PAGES DICTATION IN WHICH SOME WORDS EXTORTION
LETTERS APPEAR INCLUDING THE WORDS HENCE AND QUOTE IRREMISSIBLE QUOTE

MOYAN

DAY LETTER

CODE UNDEVELOPED WORDS.

RECORDED

7-375-28

RECEIVED	NOV 23 1935
FBI - SAN FRANCISCO	

620P
WESTERN UNION

Carroll

WPC:LC

November 23, 1933.

RECORDED

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ASSISTANT TO THE ATTORNEY GENERAL,
MR. WILLIAM STANLEY.

For your information, I am forwarding herewith a copy
of a memorandum directed to the Attorney General in the
kidnaping case of Brooks Hart.

Very truly yours,

Director.

Encl. 8361672

7-375-27



RECORDED

7-375-29
NOV 28 1933
FBI - NEW YORK

EPC:LC

November 23, 1933.

~~RECORDED~~

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. ROBERT H. GATES,
PUBLICITY OFFICER.

For your information, I am forwarding herewith a copy
of a memorandum directed to the Attorney General in the
kidnaping case of Brooke Hart.

Very truly yours,

Encl. #364673

Director

RECEIVED
NOV 24 1933

7-375-36

UNITED STATES BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA**

FILE NO. **7-63**

REPORT MADE AT Chicago, Illinois	DATE WHEN MADE 11/23/33	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 11/14/33	REPORT MADE BY K. R. McIntire	FILE NO. F.7.7.
TITLE UNKNOWN SUBJECTS, BROOKS HART, VICTIM			CHARACTER OF CASE KIDNAPING	

SYNOPSIS:

Office of prosecuting attorney, Cook County, Illinois, has no information that Jack Klutas and gang are responsible for the kidnapping of Brooks Hart.

B.U.C.

REFERENCE:

Telegram from the San Francisco Office, 11/12/33.

DETAILS:

On November 12, 1933, this office received a telegram from the San Francisco office informing that that office had secured information from the Associated Press that the Prosecuting Attorney, Cook County, Illinois, had information that Jack Klutas and gang were responsible for the kidnapping of Brooks Hart. This information was not confirmed by the San Francisco office.

On November 14, 1933, this office received a telegram from the San Francisco office informing that that office had secured information from the Associated Press that the Prosecuting Attorney, Cook County, Illinois, had information that Jack Klutas and gang were responsible for the kidnapping of Brooks Hart. This information was not confirmed by the San Francisco office.

The results of this investigation were telegraphed to the San Francisco office on November 14, 1933.

No further investigation was being conducted at this time.

REMITTED TO THE CHIEF OF BUREAU FOR REVIEW.

APPROVED AND FORWARDED K. R. McIntire	DATE NOV 23 1933
SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	

UNITED STATES
BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE TO
AVOID PAYMENT OF POSTAGE \$300

47
DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Laboratory Report

Case:
Specimen:

Harold Kidnapping
Thomas H. Hammond Number: *7-375232*
Handwriting of Hammond and
Frank Rootlines

Examination requested by:

Date received:

Examination desired:

Date of Report:

Result of examination:

Examination by:

San Francisco
11/28/33, after wire report.
Compare handwriting
11/29/33
Wm. Oliver Hammond wrote the
Extortion letter.

U. S. Department of Justice
Bureau of Investigation
318 News Building
San Francisco, California.

REV:IC
Refer File
47-27.

November 21, 1933.

Director,
Division of Investigation,
U.S. Department of Justice,
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir:

Re: THOMAS E. THURMOND
JOHN M. HOLMES
BROOKLYN HART - Victim.
Kidnaping.

I am attaching hereto two samples of printing,
one sample each printed by Subject Thurmond and Subject Hol-
mes, in the above captioned matter.

Will you please compare the printing on these
yellow sheets, to which the signatures of each Subject has
been affixed, with the original ransom letters which have been
forwarded to you, and advise whether the printing as contained
on the yellow sheets, in your opinion, is the same as that con-
tained in the ransom notes, submitting your opinion, and re-
turning the yellow printed sheets to this office as soon as
you are through.

Very truly yours,

R. E. VETTERLI,
Special Agent in Charge.

Encs.-2.

RECORDED

DEC 1 1933

7-375-32
NOV 27 1933

Postal Telegraph

THE INTERNATIONAL SYSTEM

Commercial
Cables



Overland
Cables

Mackay

Radio

RXC#13 21 GOT COLLECT

GA SANFRANCISCO CALIF 26 244P

DIRECTOR 0 34

DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION U S DEPT OF JUSTICE WASH DC

HART KIDNAPPING BODY RECOVERED TODAY NEAR SANVATED BRIDGE

IDENTIFIED BY TWO EMPLOYEES OF HART STORE BY JEWELRY FOUND ON

BODY

VETTERL.

NOV 27 1933



7-375-33	
NOV 27 1933 P.M.	
FILE	

82

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

Division of Investigation

U. S. Department of Justice

Washington, D. C.

November 17, 1933.

Mr. Nathan	
Mr. Tolson	
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Glavin	
Mr. Ladd	
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tracy	
Mr. Carson	
Mr. Coffey	
Mr. Hendon	
Mr. Jones	
Mr. Quinn	
Mr. Nease	
Miss Gandy	

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR.

Mr. J. T. Williams called on the telephone and stated he merely had called to congratulate you on the California case and he felt that now was the time to strike insofar as consolidation was concerned. He inquired relative to whether these men in California had prior criminal records. I told him I did not think we had had an opportunity to determine that; that the fingerprints had not been received yet. He then asked if I had been over the recommendations made by the police at the recent conference here, advising that he had received a copy of them from you, for which he desired to thank you. I told him that I had been over them generally. He asked whether I thought they were practicable or feasible. I told him undoubtedly they were but some of them would require considerable work. He again referred to the consolidation one and suggested that public sentiment was so now that that at least ought to be pushed.

Respectfully,

V. W. Hughes.

RECORDED
&
INDEXED

JAN 18 1934

7-325-33K
DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION
NOV 17 1933

JER:BCB

November 21, 1933.

RECORDED

7-375-23X

Mr. James T. Williams, Jr.,
250 Constitution Avenue,
Washington, D. C.

JAN 18 1934

Dear Mr. Williams:

I was sorry I was not in the office on last Friday when you called, but Mr. Hughes told me of your very cordial message of congratulation upon the work of our Division in the recent kidnaping case at San Jose which, while solved so far as the identity and apprehension of the perpetrators is concerned, will possibly go down in crime annals as one of the most vicious of murders. I want you to know that I am deeply appreciative of your very kindly interest in the activities, attainments and work of our Division. The editorial appearing in last evening's Washington Times was most gratifying and makes me feel as if our hard work has really been worth while.

Assuring you of my highest esteem, and with best personal regards, I am

Sincerely yours,

M. J. Hughes
TJH

THE COMPANY WILL APPRECIATE SUGGESTIONS FROM ITS PATRONS CONCERNING ITS SERVICE

CLASS OF SERVICE

This is a **Priority Telegram or Cablegram** unless its character is indicated by a suitable sign above or preceding the address.

WESTERN UNION

(39)

R. B. WHITE
PRESIDENT

NEW YORK CITY
CHIEF OF THE BUREAU

A. C. WILKINSON
VICE PRESIDENT

SIGNS

DL - Day Letter
NM - Night Message
NL - Night Letter
LC - Deferred Cable
MT - Cable Night Letter
Day Letter

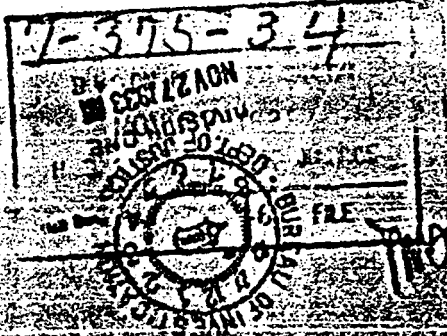
The filing time as shown in the date box on full-rate telegrams and day letters, and the time of receipt at destination is shown on all messages, in STANDARD TIME.
Received at 708 14th St., N. W. Washington, D. C. 555 NOV 27 AM 4 40

FA6 19 GOVT COLLECT=SAN FRANCISCO CALIF 27 130A

MINUTES BY TRANSIT	
Full-rate	Day Letter

DIRECTOR DIV OF INVESTIGATION=
US DEPT OF JUSTICE WASH DC=

HART KIDNAPPING SUBJECTS THURMOND AND HOLMES UNDER STATE
CUSTODY SANJOSE WERE TAKEN BY MOB AND LYNCHED MIDNITE TONITE
VETTERLI.



Mr. Nathan	
Mr. Tolson	
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Glavin	
Mr. Ladd	
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tracy	
Mr. Carson	
Mr. Egan	
Mr. Gurnea	
Mr. Harbo	
Mr. Hendon	
Mr. Jones	
Mr. Quinn	
Mr. Nease	
Mr. Gandy	

NOV 27 1933

THE QUICKEST, EASIEST AND SAFEST WAY TO SEND MONEY IS BY TELEGRAPH OR CABLE

Division of Investigation

U. S. Department of Justice
315 Hayes Building
San Francisco, California.

PERV:12
Refer file
87-27.

November 25, 1933.

Director,
Division of Investigation,
U.S. Department of Justice,
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir:

Re: THOMAS H. THURMOND
JOHN M. HOLMES
BROCKE L. HART - Victim.
Kidnaping.

Reference is made to your wire, requesting further samples of printing of both Subjects in the above captioned matter, and that an effort be made to secure several copies of the words "hence" and "irregardless".

All efforts to secure further samples of printing at San Jose were unavailable. Both Subjects now have attorneys, and they refuse to even permit their clients to discuss this case, and refuse to permit them to furnish anything at all in writing to anyone. They made a flat denial.

Accordingly, the comparison will no doubt have to be made from samples of the printing of Subjects forwarded to the Division. For your information, Subject Thurmond states Subject Holmes printed all letters, and Subject Holmes admitted he had done so to Sheriff Daig. This may be of some assistance to you in your analysis.

Very truly yours,

R. E. VETTERLI,
Special Agent in Charge

7-11-35

RECEIVED NOV 29 1933

NOV 29 1933

315 Texas Building
San Francisco, California.

RECEIVED
JAN 19 1953

November 30, 1951.

Mr. W. H. Ladd,
United States Attorney,
Post Office Building,
San Francisco, California.

Dear Sir:

JOHN H. HARRIS

Subject: LOYALTY - Victim
Kidnaping.

In connection with the above captioned mat-
ter, I am attaching hereto copies of the reports of
Special Agent in Charge W. H. Ladd, San Francisco,
California, dated 11/19/51 and 11/19/51.

S. H. Ladd

Special Agent in Charge

S. H. Ladd
San Francisco

7-375
NOV 30 1951
U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE
RECEIVED

20022

DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION

U S DEPT OF JUSTICE

CHICAGO ILL

NOV 14, 1935

W E VERDELY
DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION
U S DEPT OF JUSTICE
218 HITES BUILDING
SAN FRANCISCO CAL

RE BROOKS HART KIDNAPING PROSECUTING ATTORNEY OAK CREEK ILL MO

INFORMATION RE YOUR WIRE LETTER FOLLOWS

RECEIVED



RECEIVED
NOV 23 1935



UNITED STATES BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

FILE NO.

7-27

REPORT MADE AT: San Francisco, Cal.	DATE WHEN MADE: 11/22/33	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE: 12/21/33	REPORT MADE BY: R. E. Vetterli
TITLE: THOMAS F. TRUMAN JOHN M. HARRIS BROOKS L. HARRIS - Victim.			CHARACTER OF CASE: KIDNAPING

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

Various witnesses interviewed at San Jose, and Santa Clara, California, indicating a detailed, planned scheme to kidnap and kill Victim. Victims of cement blocks and wire located and interviewed. Acquaintances of Victim interviewed. One other witness interviewed. Further detailed description of Victim and family.

STAMP: NOV 23 1933
NOV 23 1933
NOV 23 1933

Report of Special Agent in Charge R. E. Vetterli, San Francisco, California, dated Nov. 21, 1933.

The following memorandum was submitted to Bureau by Mr. W. H. Hickey, Jr., San Jose, California, dated Nov. 21, 1933.

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>R. E. Vetterli</i> Special Agent in Charge		NOV 23 1933	
COPIES OF THIS REPORT: 1 - Bureau 1 - San Francisco 1 - San Jose, Cal. 1 - San Francisco, Cal. 1 - San Francisco, Cal.		NOV 28 1933	

In his written statement, Subject Thomas H. Thurmond indicates that Victim Hart was struck over the head with a brick, which he had obtained at a cement company at San Jose, California, and that his body was later weighted with cement blocks then tossed into the bay from the San Mateo Bridge.

Investigation in San Jose developed that one Tony Carvalho, an employee of the California Concrete Products Company, 1700 South First Street, which company was formerly the Merritt Concrete Company, had sold three tile bricks, weighing approximately twenty to twenty-five pounds each, to a man whom he identifies as Subject Thurmond, on or about the last day of October or first day of November, 1933. Upon interview, Tony Carvalho, who resides at 1226 Clay Street, Santa Clara, California, appeared to have no hesitation in recalling the incident of the purchase of these three cement blocks, and he was not hesitant in his identification of Thurmond as the purchaser. In connection with his identification of Thurmond, Carvalho was shown instant close-up photographs appearing in the newspapers of both Thurmond and Holmes. In the particular newspaper from which Carvalho made his identification, the photographs of Thurmond and Holmes had been mistakenly indicated, the name Holmes appearing under the photograph of Thurmond, and Thurmond under that of Holmes, but Carvalho, without regard to name, immediately picked the photograph of Thurmond as the man who had contacted him with reference to the purchase of these cement blocks. The above investigation was conducted in company with Deputy Sheriff John Moore of San Jose, and Carvalho furnished the following statement detailing his knowledge of the circumstances surrounding the sale of Thurmond to the concrete company yard.

This original statement is being incorporated in the San Francisco file in case case for future reference.

San Jose, California

Tony Carvalho, made the following voluntary statement to SA E. Ramsey, Jr., Special Agent, Division of Investigation, U.S. Department of Justice.

Deputy Sheriff John Moore, Santa Clara County, California

31 years of age, and for the past 3 years have worked as machanic and laborer of all trades.

Concrete Products Company, having over the Merritt Concrete Co. three years ago.

While working at my usual duties about the concrete company yard on a day about the last of October or first of November of this year, a young man came into the yard and asked me if we had any brick tile. I asked him if he wanted some tile and he said "No - brick tile". I then took him to our brick pile in back of the office in our yard, and showed him various types and sizes of brick and stone tile we had.

"I picked up one of the 1 1/2 pound Plymouth cement building tile. I pulled this off of the pile and showed it to the man - but he looked at it and said without weighing it - that it was too light. This brick I picked up and showed him it still in the pile just where I replaced it, and I have pointed it out to Deputy Moore and Agent Ramsey, and am placing my initials on it. I then picked up a heavier, layer tile brick, a 1 1/2 pound Plymouth cement brick, and the man took this brick in his hand and lifted it up and down, but then replied it was also too light. This brick is still on the pile and I have pointed same out to the above named men, Moore and Ramsey, and am initialing it.

"I then showed the man one of our 6x8x16 bricks, weighing 24 pounds. The man took this brick in his hand, lifted it up and down, and seemed satisfied. He said he wanted two of these bricks. He took another one and weighed them both in his hands, and then said still to "three".

"I asked him if he wanted these tile, for a fish pond as they having holes are sometimes used for this purpose - but he refused to answer.

"This man, who I would say is about 30 years old, was wearing a dark suit and a dark hat. I have seen a photograph of Thomas Raymond in the paper, and can identify as the man who came and handled these bricks and purchased same.

"The man I recognize as Raymond, then carried the two bricks to the car and I carried the third, handing it to him on the car which he had parked in front of the office. He put these bricks on the floor of the car which was a dark color - don't know what color it was. I found out the price from the book, and then Raymond went in to the office and told Manager John T. Berninelli 30¢ for the three bricks.

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He made the remark to me 'The bricks are cheap enough'.

That was the last I saw of the man.

"I have read the above, contained on two pages, and same is true.

"I have picked out a brick exactly similar to the one I sold Thompson and initialed it also.

(Signed) A. CARVALHO
(TINY CARVALHO)

Witnesses:

John H. Moore,
Deputy Sheriff.

Mr. E. Ramsey, Jr.,
Special Agent, Division of Investigation,
U.S. Department of Justice.

The agent further stated that he recalls as being those who were in connection with the purchase were initialed by him and taken by Deputy Sheriff Moore for evidence in this case. Also taken as evidence was a small brick, which was a small brick, which Carvalho is stated was identical with those actually purchased by Thompson, and which, he, Carvalho, states was taken from a pile of bricks.

John J. Bernick, Manager of the California Cement Products Company, upon interview in the presence of the agent, advised that he was not familiar with the above incident related by Tiny Carvalho, that the above incident was not a common occurrence because of the fact that it was only a small quantity of bricks.

Agent Moore, who was present for the above incident, stated that he is a father of four, and the above incident was the only one of its type or kind that he had known of in the past three months, and he was certain of this possibly for a longer period.

His connection with the visit of Thompson to the cement yard, Bernick stated that he saw Thompson and his son, Raymond, drive in with one car, but that he had never seen parked out in front of the office that he had not taken any particular notice of the type or kind of car. He stated that his first connection with the sale of the cement

brick in question came when his yard man, Tony Carvalho, came into the office, and asked him what the price of three of the 8x12 inch cement blocks would be; that Mr. Carvalho had a man who desired to purchase three. He states that he advised Carvalho that the price of these blocks in such quantity would be ten cents each; that Carvalho then left the office, appeared to convey this information to the prospective purchaser; that he then drove through the window of the office the three cement blocks being loaded in the parked car in front of the office by Carvalho and the purchaser; and that when Carvalho and this person came into the office and the man tendered him, Dermicheli, a fifty cent piece in payment for the three concrete blocks or tile blocks; that he returned twenty cents change to this purchaser; that inasmuch as the purchase was of such a trivial character, he made no charge or cash slip, nor notation of any kind upon the books relative to transaction, merely taking the money and giving the man his change; that he is thus unable to fix an exact date for the transaction, but believes that it was at or about the time noted by Carvalho.

Dermicheli, although not being an active in identification of the purchaser as Carvalho, nevertheless apparently identified that the person fits the description of, and resembled the photograph of Subject Thurmond.

Deputy Sheriff John Moore advises that on November 1953, in company with Deputy Sheriff Felix Cordrey, they conducted an investigation in Santa Clara for the purpose of ascertaining whether any of the hardware or merchandise stores in Santa Clara would have a notation reference to the sale of bailing wire to any individual for fifty-five cents in recent weeks, in order that the statements of subject Thurmond with reference to this item might be corroborated. He states that as a result of this investigation, it was ascertained that one J. J. Condense, of 2740 Santa Street, Santa Clara, California, an employee of the Varga Bros. Merchandise Store, located at the corner of Franklin and Lafayette Street, remembered after some questioning that he had sold to a man wearing a light suit and who was rather tall, a seventy-five foot coil of wire clothed for fifty-five cents; that to the best of Condense's recollection, this

man was of the type of person who would be of the type of person indicated to them the regular retail price of fifty-five cents. Moore stated that at the time of their visit they were unable to exhibit photographs of either Holmes or Thurmond for purposes of identification, but that they believed from their conversation with Condense that he could probably be able to identify the photograph of the man making this purchase without at the time Condense's only statement to them regarding the man that he was tall, apparently under thirty-five years of age, clean shaven and wearing a light suit. Photographs of Thurmond and Holmes will be exhibited to Condense at the earliest practical date in order that it may be ascertained whether he can positively identify either as the purchaser of the wire.

It was reported to the Sheriff's office in San Jose that Deputy Sheriff H. D. Evans of Campbell, California, a small unincorporated village near San Jose, had some information in connection with the Chevrolet and Pontiac cars assertedly operated by Subjects Thompson and Holmes.

In Campbell, California, in company with Deputy Sheriff Ray Hicks, Agent interviewed Deputy Sheriff Evans, who stated that two residents of Campbell, Morie Shaves and Tom Shaves, who reside at No. 35 - 15th Street, in Campbell, had come to him and indicated that they had seen two cars on the White Oaks Road through the trees and orchards near Campbell on Monday, November 15th, at eleven a.m.; that they stated that they had seen a Chevrolet car drive up and stop on the narrow road or trail, and that about following it at a short distance had come a Pontiac car; that at the time the Shaves had been chopping wood among the trees some 100 feet from the road, and had noticed nothing peculiar other than that the cars stopped; that later these men, the Shaves, drove past the two cars and noted that the drivers of the two cars were both sitting in one of the cars, and that one of the men appeared to have a sheet of paper up against the windshield on which he was writing; that when they, the Shaves, went by, the man hurriedly dropped the paper on the writing on and picked up a newspaper up before his face; that Shaves thought the actions of these men suspicious, and from the return to the field, going by the two cars, took the license numbers of each. He stated that they later turned these license numbers over to him, and that they were as follows: Chevrolet, 1935 California license 460-420; Pontiac, 1935 California license 460-1461.

Morie Shaves, 35 North 15th Street, Campbell, California, advised upon interview by this Agent, in the presence of Deputy Sheriff Evans and Hicks, that on Monday, November 15th, while working on a ranch in Alameda near the White Oaks Road, by trail, he had noted a Chevrolet and Pontiac car drive up and stop some fifty yards in the wooded yard from where he was working with a chainsaw. He stated that Tom Shaves, in company with him, had noticed the man in the Chevrolet get out and get into the Pontiac and about half an hour later the man in the Pontiac had returned to the Chevrolet and about as before the Chevrolet got into the car he was using in chopping wood, and that he and Shaves got into their car to go down to their home in Campbell to have some things that they had dropped on the field and down this narrow trail. He stated that he had been riding through the field and saw the cars, and that even for that width unless both are far to their respective positions and the man traveled position of the road, he and Shaves observed as they drove past, the Pontiac, was the man in front of the steering wheel of the Pontiac, and appeared to be writing, and that he noticed some notation on a piece of paper which he held up against the windshield; that as they passed this person hurriedly dropped the paper from the windshield and picked up a newspaper which it appeared he had in his lap, and held it up before his face.

He states that both he and Nelson thought this an unusual action on the part of this individual, and because of the fact the road was a seldom traveled trail, and it was unusual for anyone to stop and wait on it, they determined on their return to the field to secure the license numbers of the two cars, which he states they did, and which he states they later turned over to Deputy Sheriff Evans, indicating to Deputy Sheriff Evans the circumstances surrounding their report. Shaves further stated that on their second trip by the car he had an opportunity to come within some ten or fifteen feet of the person in the Pontiac car, who had been writing on the windshield, and that he is certain from newspaper photographs which he has seen that this person is one and the same as Jack Holmes. He stated that after they returned to the field the man whom he had noted writing at the windshield, got out of the Pontiac, went up to the Chevrolet and drove away, the Chevrolet being driven by the man he believes to be Holmes, and the Pontiac being driven in the opposite direction to the other car.

Shaves was unable to identify or describe this other man beside Holmes, stating that inasmuch as the other man, Holmes, had been in his direct line of vision, he had noted his features, and neglected those of Holmes' companion. Shaves has no hesitation in identifying Holmes as the individual that he did see. It will be noted that 1933 California License PC-420 is issued to Jack Holmes, 1070 Bird Avenue, San Jose, California, and that California 1933 License PC-144, is registered to Thompson, Arthur.

Tom Shaves, owner of the above named garage, 20 North 1st Street, upon interview, in the presence of the above named persons, stated that he had not gone with his son and Nelson on the day in question, and that he had not there, but had a close view of either of the men in the two cars, and that all he actually saw was the two cars drive up and then drive away south after some interval, and he was unable to give any identification whatever of either the cars or the persons therein.

Reuben Nelson, upon interview at his home, Route 1, Box 120, Casey Road, Campbell, California, in company with Deputy Sheriff Evans and Evans, corroborated the statement of Shaves, as stated above, and further advised that they, Tom and Marie Shaves, had been working on this ranch near the White Oak road for a number of years and prior to the date they noticed these cars, taking the road but for themselves. He stated that he himself, had taken down the numbers of the cars in a little notebook which he had, and which he still has. He appeared as positive in his statement that he had taken down the numbers of the cars in the Pontiac, but was unable to identify or describe Holmes' companion. He was likewise certain as to the time that they had seen these cars.

In company with Deputy Sheriff Felix Cordrey, Agent examined Palmer's Chevrolet Coach, California 1933 license 909-420, which is stored at the Plaza Garage by the Sheriff's office at the present time. This car was thoroughly inspected by Deputy Cordrey and this Agent, with the view to ascertaining whether anything might be found having a connection with instant offense, and to ascertain particularly whether the floor of the car or the seats showed any evidence of small particles of cement crumbs, it having been stated by the manager of the cement company, above mentioned, that the corners of the blocks crumbled readily, and that small pieces of cement crumbs could usually be found where cement blocks of that type had rested. This inspection developed evidence of particles of cement block crumbs on the fabric floor mat covering the rear floor of the car, and there was also evidence of fine particles of dry sand. Upon the floor of the car was also discovered two regular size metal safety pins, and in the left back corner of the car, concealed under the floor mat, was discovered a leather card courtesy case of the Union Oil Company, containing a white slip of registration for the instant Chevrolet automobile with this notation:

V. E. Salas, 1070 Bird Avenue,
license number 00-420, Engine No.
10289-2, Serial No. 80007-2012,
First sold 7-24-33, Date issued
7-25-33, Legal owner GRAC, Federal
Reserve Bank Bldg., San Francisco,
California.

The card bore the initials of the issuing authority as "M.C." and it was noted that there was no signature on the line reserved for owner's signature. This leather card case was initialed by Deputy Cordrey, and this Agent, and the mat containing the small cement particles, sand, and safety pins was rolled up on this none of the material found, which might be lost, and then this mat was initialed by Deputy Cordrey and this Agent, and turned over to the Sheriff.

As soon as the car was started, the following tools: a hammer, red handled screw driver, flat file wrench, a starting crank, a screw jack and handle, a drop end wrench and a monkey wrench. The upholstery and springs of the back seat inside of the car were thoroughly searched with no other discovery except that a small slip of paper purporting to be a statement of J. J. Company of California, San Francisco, dated 10/1/33, was found. This slip was found in the car was noted to be a black 1933 Chevrolet Coach, with black wire wheels, and the make and serial numbers as noted above.

Mr. Seaman L. Kay, proprietor of Kay's Service Station, 141 South Tenth Street, San Jose, was interviewed by this agent, in the presence of Deputy Sheriff Leon Coleis, and stated that he had known Holmes for a period of over a year, first meeting him as a salesman for the Union Oil Company, at which time Holmes was driving an old green Chevrolet car. He stated that ordinarily Holmes dropped by his place quite frequently; that on November 1, 1935 Holmes advised him that he had lost his job with the Union Oil Company, personal reasons involving some prejudice by the manager of the Union Oil Company having been reported by Holmes as the cause of his discharge.

He stated that he had always entertained a fairly good opinion of Holmes' sales ability, and that when he learned that Holmes had lost his job with the Union Oil Company, he, Kay, made Holmes a proposition at once to haul their products, that is, products of the Kay Service Company, and to sell them to dealers throughout the rural area around San Jose; that the proposition which he offered would afford Holmes an opportunity to make a commission of about fifteen to \$500.00 per month; that he, Kay, had even gone so far as to hold a check for Holmes to secure a check for one on his job from the Western Oil Company, 11 South River Street, for \$250.00, but that they had never consummated the deal.

Mr. Kay stated that he had seen Holmes almost every day since the 1st of November up until the 7th, and that on Thursday, November 7th, Holmes had come into the service station, and gotten his car greased and that they had come to verbal understanding, whereby it was practically agreed that Holmes was to take the job with him as a salesman, but that final decision was to be deferred for a day or two. Kay provided the service station ticket indicating a grease job on the Holmes' car on November 7, 1935, at which time the payment had been cashed. Kay stated that he was absent from the station on Wednesday, the 6th, going on a short hunt, and that the next time he saw Holmes was on Friday morning, November 10, 1935; that immediately after Brooke Hart kidnapping was the main topic of conversation at that particular day, he had justifiably asked Holmes, "Well, did you kidnap the Hart boy, and if so what did you do with him?" Kay stated that he noticed no perceptible change in Holmes' countenance or manner when he made the above remark, and that he noticed no change whatever in his conduct on this morning as compared with that of other mornings, except that on this morning he appeared more nervous or fidgety and Holmes, and less willing to talk; that with reference to the position with his firm which he had indicated was offered him, he had no answer. Holmes told him that he was not yet ready to go ahead, as he, Holmes, was not sure of the situation with the Kay Oil Company. Kay stated that Holmes did not come to the service station after the Friday above noted, and that he had not seen him since that date.

2 inch beam and with edge; that the Best Store is the only store in town selling these items, and that only about two dozen of the hats have been sold since the murder was committed. Deputy Sheriff Duffington advised the hat had been recovered by Inspectors Joe Brennan and George Kensington of the San Diego County District Attorney's office.

Sheriff W. J. King advised that when talking with Subject Thurmond at the San Francisco Jail, Thurmond had advised him, King, that Holmes had told him, Thurmond, that Holmes would be able to prove an alibi in connection with instant offense through Mrs. John C. Cum, 88 West Humboldt Street, San Jose, California, inasmuch as Mrs. Cum would establish that he, Holmes, was at her home at the time instant offense was reported to have been committed.

In company with Deputy Sheriff Leon Calate, King called at the home of Mrs. John C. Cum, 88 West Humboldt Street, and requested that she come to the Sheriff's office for the purpose of an interview and statement in connection with instant case. Accordingly, Mrs. Cum, in company with her husband, came to the Sheriff's office, and made a statement relative to her acquaintance with Subject Holmes, and to her presence at her home on Thursday, November 2, 1933. This statement followed the form of questions and answers propounded by the agent and Deputy Sheriff Leon Calate, and was transcribed by Deputy Sheriff Miss Lenore Shattell, who is now typing same and a full copy of which will be forwarded to the San Francisco office upon its completion.

Interview with Mrs. Cum is being conducted in order to determine as to time and date, although she is positive that Holmes was at her home on Thursday, November 2, 1933, she is not certain of the duration of his stay, nor of the exact time of his departure, although positive that Holmes was at her home on Thursday, November 2, 1933, and that his visit was terminated rather than voluntary departure. Mrs. Cum also indicated that she had no knowledge of any subsequent contact with Holmes, and that she had no knowledge of any subsequent contact with Holmes.

A full statement from Mrs. Cum is being prepared, and additional Holmes alibi witness, who is being made subject of investigation by Deputy Sheriff Leon Calate, is being made subject of investigation by Deputy Sheriff Leon Calate, and a complete copy of same will be furnished and the information contained therein reported to the San Francisco office by Miss Shattell.

A further detailed description of Victim Brooks L. Hart has been secured, which is as follows:

Complete name	Leopold Hart.
Born	San Jose, California.
	June 11, 1911.
Height	5'11"
Weight	136 lbs. stripped.
	146 3/4 lbs. stripped to the waist.
	Wears long sleeves, trousers, and shorts.
Hair	Medium blond, wavy.
Eyes	Blue.
Complexion	Fair.
Scars, marks, etc.	Smooth shaven, very light beard.
	Very distinct scar right chin
	below right corner of mouth where
	tooth was removed.
	On one shoulder black ink light red
	birth mark about the size of a
	nickel.
	Very small mole covered by ring
	on top left ring finger.
	Below wrist watch inside forearm,
	several blisters several inches
	deeper than the rest of his skin.
	Wears shoes size 10 or 10 1/2.
	Has very narrow shoulders, and was
	believed to be wearing Russian
	black low shoes.
	Wearing pearl gray pants, black hand
	knapsack.
	Wearing four-in-hand tie, light
	blue.
	Wearing light gray shirt with
	white high collar.
	Wore a gray suit, medium colored
	vest, matching wrist watch, and
	initials "L. H." on left side of
	shirt and yellow coat. The wrist
	band was a square black metal one
	and with a yellow enamel band
	and a small set of initials on
	the band.
	Wearing a Santa Clara College signet
	ring, with a small set of initials
	on the band.
	His underwear and athletic shorts
	were made of silk or rayon.
	He wore a very dark
	coat with a high collar.

Large recently shaved because of
adhesive tape placed on legs when
ankle sprained.
Member of Delta Sigma Fraternity.
Glasses in possession at time of
disappearance, usually carried in
lapel coat pocket.
Wristless glasses, silver lined,
coral & blue, size of lenses:
P x 43 mm, P x 43 mm.
Mounting for glasses: silver
cap had pink gold filled engraved
wristless mounting with pink gold
filled skull emblems. Bridge size:
28mm between lenses. Temples
silver mounted.

Victim Brooke L. Hart was recently treated by Dr.
W. H. Marshall, 215 South Market Street, San Jose, a chiropodist, for minor
foot ailment on the toe near to the little toe on one foot, specific foot
not known.

An effort is being made to secure the full details
regarding the victim's death from the coroner's office, San Jose, Cal.
now.

Since typing the above information, a copy of the
question and answer statement of Mrs. Gertrude Johnson has been received
to this office, which statement has been examined with the San Jose Police
for several days. They having been acquainted with the victim for several
years of age, at San Jose, Cal. The particular point of Mrs. Johnson's state-
ment is the fact that Subject, Holmes has been quite interested in her lately
and as a result of his conversation with her, she has been separated between San Jose
and San Francisco.

During the afternoon of Thursday, November 9, 1934,
before Victim Brooke L. Hart was missing, Mrs. Gertrude Johnson, who was
employed as a nurse and was going to the California Theatre, San Jose, Cal.
and was to be a nurse, and Subject Holmes came to her home and remained
there for about fifteen or twenty minutes. She was then going to the
Theatre. She estimated that Holmes came to her home between 7:00 and 8:00
probably a quarter of 8:00 on the night of November 9th. They then went to
see the Three Little Pigs at the Water Theatre. They then went to
the amusement before the end of the night show, and then the subject was
at 9 o'clock. Mrs. Johnson is the mother of the victim.

Just on the night of the kidnapping, Subject Holmes was very calm, deliberate, and she did not notice anything unusual at all about his behavior.

A statement was secured from Frank N. McKee, 157 South 3rd Street, San Jose, California, on November 18, 1931, by representatives of the Sheriff's Office at San Jose. This statement was secured owing to the fact it had been reported by Subject Thurmond that there was a possibility when they first kidnaped Hart that they would take him on a boat, and told him these facts for reasons, and it had been rumored that McKee had been approached concerning the purchase of a boat.

In this question and answer statement, a copy of which is on file at the San Francisco Office, McKee stated that he has known Subject Holmes for about ten years, although he had not associated with him intimately; that on the 1st day of October, the day before the duck season opened, Holmes met McKee at Alviso, and inquired of the keeper of the yacht club was there. McKee told Holmes he had just left. Holmes then inquired as to whether there was any boat around for sale, and McKee pointed out a boat to him, and quoted the purchase price as \$1500, and Holmes replied it was just the type of boat he desired, and stated if he did purchase it, he was a man by the name of Harold Thurmond would go along on the purchase, and that he would let his partner Thurmond know about it, and they would come out again and look it over.

McKee then suggested that Holmes might care to look elsewhere for some boats, owing to the fact that a man does not usually buy the first boat he sees, but he replied he had been around several yacht clubs in San Francisco, and could not find what he wanted, but that this boat was just the type he wanted. Subject Holmes merely responded as to the purchase of a boat, and not the kidnapping of Hart.

The following information was submitted in memorandum form by Special Agent W. H. Sawyer:

On November 20, 1931, Agent interviewed James E. Kallroy, 1411 The Alameda, San Jose, California, one of the partners of the Kallroy-Keith Lumber Company, reported by Jack Holmes to have been the lumber company which had produced the cement blocks used in the murder of William Hamm, Jr.

Mr. Kallroy stated that he had known Subject Thurmond for a period of about 10 years, first meeting him when he had come to the lumber yard and applied for a job that he had worked for him for a period of about two years around the lumber yard, and in driving a truck, but that he was unable to give the exact dates of this man's employment, the reason being that most of their records for that period had been destroyed. He stated that following this period of employment of Thurmond, he last knew of him about a year or more ago, and that during the last two years he had not seen him.

had been employed off and on for a day or two at a time, at the First Street yard, 925 South First Street, of the McNairy-Chalmers Lumber Company.

Mr. McNairy stated that he had not seen Thompson for the past several weeks, and did not know what occupation he was in at the time instant offense was committed, but that his partner, Mr. Leo D. Chalm, of 925 South First Street, might have further information in connection with Subject Thompson. Mr. McNairy advised that his lumber company carried no cement blocks whatever, and that therefore any statement concerning the theft of such blocks from his company's yard must be erroneous.

Mr. Leo D. Chalm was interviewed at 925 South First Street, San Jose, California. He stated that there were no cement concrete blocks of the type described by either Holmes or Thompson in their stock, nor on their grounds; that they had had no reports of the loss of any materials of any kind whatever, either cement blocks or lumber, during the past two months, and that any statement by either Subject Thompson or Subject Holmes that they had stolen cement blocks from the McNairy-Chalmers Lumber Company at their two yards in San Jose was erroneous.

Mr. Chalm further stated that if Subject Thompson had worked for their company during the past year, he would have worked at the First Street plant, which he, Chalm, had charge of, and that he had no record of his employment during the past year.

The confessions of Subject Thompson and Holmes indicate that a gun used by Subject Thompson had been purchased from a Mr. Meyer, residing in Willow Glen, a suburb of San Jose, California. Agent located this P. F. Meyer at 400 Willow Street, Willow Glen, California, and he stated upon interview, in the presence of Deputy Sheriff Ray Hicks, that he had known Subject Holmes for a period of about two years, first meeting him when Holmes had contacted his garage at 400 Willow Street, for the purpose of selling the products of the Union Oil Company. He stated that he had been very friendly with Holmes, and had always regarded him as a very confidential and fine person.

With reference to the gun matter, he, Meyer, stated that in August of 1933, a friend of his, one Bill Ament, had left Willow Glen, that in leaving he had left him, Meyer, a .38 revolver, so that he, Meyer, had two revolvers, the .38 revolver left by Ament, and a .41 caliber revolver which he himself had all the time. He stated that subsequent to this turning over of his gun to him by Ament, he contacted Subject Holmes that he had an extra gun, told Holmes that he was willing to sell his own .41 caliber revolver for \$8.00. Mr. Meyer stated that he is not sure of exact date, but that on either Oct. 15th, 16th or 17th, Holmes appeared at the garage, 400 Willow Street, accompanied by Subject Thompson; that Subject Holmes introduced him, Meyer, to Thompson, and stated that he, Holmes, had secured a purchaser for his, Meyer's, .41 caliber revolver. Mr. Meyer stated that he had never seen Thompson, nor did he see him after that day. He stated that Thompson seemed to be very shy, and that they were not very friendly. He stated that he had never seen Holmes since that day.

picked up the gun, and handled it in a very indifferent way, which indicated to him, Meyer, that Thurmond did not have much experience with guns, and did not know how to handle a gun.

He stated that, however, Thurmond without further investigation or quibbling as to price, advised him at once that he would take the gun, and tendered him a \$10.00 bill in payment therefor; that he entered the payment as an \$8.00 cash sale; that his cash book shows that he made cash sales of \$8.00 on Oct. 15th, 16th and 17th, and for that reason he, Meyer, is unable to definitely state which one of these dates the gun was purchased by Thurmond, but he is sure that it was either the 15th, 16th, or 17th.

Mr. Meyer further stated that he did not see Holmes again until three or four days after the first of November, when Holmes called at his garage and advised him that he had lost his job with the Union Oil Company, and told him, Meyer, that he had a proposition to sell products independently for another service company; and that he, Holmes, desired his Meyer's business in this connection. He stated that after a short visit on this date, Holmes left and he has not seen or heard from Holmes since that date.

Chief William J. Dail of Santa Clara County, advised Agent that Holmes had stated that the concrete blocks secured in connection with this case, had been placed on the parking space in front of his, Holmes' home at 1070 Bird Avenue, in San Jose, California, and that they had remained there for several days in plain view of the neighborhood of instant kidnapping.

In company with Deputy Sheriff Ray Hicks, Agent interviewed Mr. Victor Lydell, 1068 Bird Avenue, who advised that he had resided at that address for about seven years; that he had known Jack Holmes and his wife as a neighbor, over a period of several years; that he, Lydell, did not see and does not remember, any cement or concrete blocks in the parking space in front of Holmes' home during the last year; that he believed that if these blocks had been there he would have seen them. Mr. Lydell was unable to state the times that he had seen Holmes in the last two weeks, but he did remember that he had seen him early on Monday morning, Nov. 15th, when he was about 7 a.m., taking the Chevrolet car, which is silver, out of the Holmes garage at 1070 Bird Avenue, and driving away.

He stated that he had no conversation with him.

He never left until about 8 or 8:15 o'clock. He was able to furnish no further information either regarding the actions or movements of Holmes, or the presence of cement blocks in the parking space in front of Holmes' residence.

In company with Deputy Sheriff Ray Hicks, Agent interviewed Mr. W. O. Harris of 1061 Bird Avenue, which house is immediately across the street from the Holmes residence. Mr. Harris advised that he had resided in the neighborhood for about five years; that he knew Holmes only casually to speak of and was not conversant with his movements, and that he believed that if any concrete blocks had been stored, or placed in the parking space near Holmes' home during the last three weeks, he would have noticed same. He stated that he did not notice these concrete blocks in front of Holmes' home.

END

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

Division of Investigation

U. S. Department of Justice

Washington, D. C.

November 27, 1933

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

Called at 11:30 A.M., pursuant to appointment, and stated that he is a native, where he was employed for some years, that a letter had recently come to him from a friend which indicated that one of San Jose might possibly have been involved in the Hart kidnapping. He stated that no such statement was made in the letter but, knowing he considered that this was the inference to be drawn and he felt it was a logical one. He commented at some length upon his theory that the Hart boy was not thrown over the San Mateo Bridge and stated he thought it more likely that, if murder had been committed, the body had been buried in the hills, and he had read somewhere that he had been suggested as an intermediary prior to the kidnappings of the two kidnapers.

The only reference I find to the effect that

I have seen no reference that he or any one else acted as an intermediary.

stated that that while it is not generally known, undoubtedly acquainted with all criminals in the County and probably would be known in on some of their activities. He stated that this information was given in the strictest confidence and that if it that he had so confided in us he might not have very long with him. I assured him that we would have nothing to do with any one concerning his call.

In view of the developments since, call, it is worthwhile to bother the San Francisco office with this information.

RECORDED
INDEXED

NOV 28 1933

TELETYPE

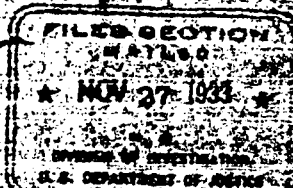
November 27, 1933

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

In connection with the lynching of Thomas Thornton and Jack Holmes, confessed kidnapers and killers of twenty-two year old Brooke Hart, I thought you should be advised immediately of the status of the Federal case against these men at the time of the lynching.

You will recall that Agents of the Division, with the assistance of the Sheriff and police officers, investigating the kidnaping, ascertained the identity of the kidnapers, took them into custody, and obtained confessions from them. Subsequently they were removed by the Sheriff of San Jose to San Francisco, where they were kept in jail, still under State custody, for a matter of five days. On November 27, 1933, they were indicted by a Grand Jury of the Federal District Court at San Francisco, charged with kidnaping and extortion. On the same evening the Sheriff of San Jose arrived at San Francisco and, placing Thornton and Holmes under a formal charge of kidnaping and murder in accordance with State Statutes, removed them that evening to the jail at San Jose, so that they were in the custody of the State at all times and, in fact, no bench warrant or warrant of any kind issuing from Federal jurisdiction had been served upon them.

Mr. Vetterli, our Agent in Charge of the San Francisco Office has advised us that at the time of the removal to San Jose and subsequent thereto, and within the past two days, he offered whatever assistance the Sheriff might require in connection with the safe custody of these prisoners. Sheriff Esch of San Jose stated, however, that he felt he was amply protected and did not require such assistance. None of the Agents of the Division was at San Jose at the time of the lynching.



RECORDED
&
INDEXED



DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Laboratory Report

Mr. Nathan	_____
Mr. Ladd	_____
Mr. Clegg	_____
Mr. Glavin	_____
Mr. Nichols	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Tracy	_____
Mr. Egan	_____
Mr. Gurnea	_____
Mr. Harbo	_____
Mr. Hendon	_____
Mr. Jones	_____
Mr. Quinn	_____
Mr. Nease	_____
Mr. Gandy	_____

Case: THOMAS E. THURMAN (HART CASE), Kidnaping. Number: 7-375
Specimen: #1, envelope and post-card extortion message to Hart; #2, envelope and two page letter extortion message to Hart; #3, envelope and four page letter, extortion message to Hart.
Examination requested by: San Francisco Office.

Date received: November 22, 1933.
Examination desired: General and fingerprints.

Date of Report: November 28, 1933.
Result of examination:

Examination by: C.A. Appel.
CH

The envelope postmarked San Jose, California, November 15, 1 P.M., measures 5.3 by 3.54 inches. It is made of note paper and bears a three-cent stamp, although this may have been unnecessary. If so, it may be of use in questioning a suspect. There is no water-mark on the envelope.

The message is written on four sheets of soft textured paper measuring 5.01 by 7.95 inches. All sheets measure exactly the same and there are torn out places at the top of these sheets which probably indicated that the paper was a part of a pad glued at the top. The writer was unable to observe any glue, however, with the microscope as is usually the case. In this connection, treating the sheets with silver nitrate created a purple line across the top which is evidently where traces of blue ink indicated the paper was part of a pad. There was no water-mark.

The envelope marked #3, postmarked San Francisco, November 15, 6:30 P.M., measures exactly 3.54 (torn) by 6.3 inches. It is exactly the same envelope as that described in the first paragraph. The letter measures 7.56 by 3 inches, the paper having a woven finish which is not the same as that of the paper described in the first paragraph. There is no water-mark and both sheets are the same.

The envelope postmarked Sacramento, November 10, 12:30 P.M., bears a three-cent stamp and measures 3.54 by 6.5 inches. It is exactly similar to the other envelopes. There is no water-mark.

RECORDED

DEC 1 1933

7-375-31
DEC 1 1933
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

- 2 -

The post-card in this envelope is of the one-cent Post Office variety. The pencil printing on all of these communications is the same and a telegram was forwarded to the San Francisco Office requesting specimens of the pencil printing of the two subjects. In conducting any tests of the subjects, advantage should be taken of the apparent use of the word "irregardless" and the misspelling of the word "hence" as "hense".

A further report on the fingerprints in this case will be submitted later.

- 3 - Director.
- 2 - San Francisco.
- 2 - Laboratory.

San Jose, Calif.

670
Air mail



Head of
Mr. Edgar Hoover
Department of Justice
Washington
D. C.



Personal.

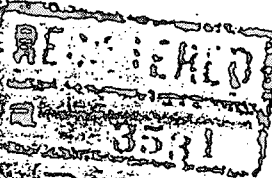
San Jose, Calif.

167C.



Via Air Mail

The Honorable J. Edgar Hoover
Investigation Dept, and Identification Bro.
Washington
D.C.



Personal
Please
Deliver to Addressee Only

WE WILL APPRECIATE SUGGESTIONS FROM ITS PATRONS CONCERNING ITS SERVICE.

BY THE SENDER OF THIS
MESSAGE, PLEASE GIVE
IT TO THE MESSENGER
OR TELEPHONE IT TO

WESTERN UNION

SIGNS

DL - Day Letter
NM - Night Message
NL - Night Letter
LC - Deferred Cable
MT - Cable Night Letter
Ship Radiogram

The flag time as shown in the date line on full-rate telegrams and day letters, and the time of receipt at destination as shown on all messages, is STANDARD TIME.

Received at 702 14th St., N. W. Washington, D. C.

1933 NOV 28 PM 1:36

BA30^{PD} DPR ██████████ = BOSTON MASS 28 108P

J EDGAR HOOVER, DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE =
BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION WASHDC =

MINUTES IN TRANSIT	
PROGRESS	DAY LETTER
✓	✓

WILL YOU WIRE ME COLLECT STATEMENT ON SAN JOSE
LYNCHING OF KIDNAPERS? YOU ARE THEIR NEMESIS. ISSUE A
NATIONAL ONE. YOUR VIEWS OF GREAT WEIGHT. THANKS. REGARDS.

CHARLES HAVEN BOSTON SUNDAY POST

- Mr. Nathan
- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. Clegg
- Mr. Glavin
- Mr. Ladd
- Mr. Nichols
- Mr. Rosen
- Mr. Tracy
- Mr. Carson
- Mr. Egan
- Mr. Gurnea
- Mr. Hendon
- Mr. Pennington
- Mr. Quinn
- Mr. Nease
- Mr. Lester
- Mr. Egan

RECORDED
&
INDEXED

DEC 1 1933

7-375-40

NOV 29 1933

DEPT. OF JUSTICE

INVESTIGATION

THE QUICKEST, SUREST AND SAFEST WAY TO SEND MONEY IS BY TELEGRAPH OR CABLE

VER:AK

November 28, 1933

Mr. Charles Haven,
c/o Boston Sunday Post,
Boston, Massachusetts.

RECORDED 7-375-40

DEC 1 1933

Dear Mr. Haven:

I wanted to acknowledge receipt of your telegram of today requesting a statement from me relative to the lynching of kidnapers. I certainly appreciate your kind comments but I have consistently refrained from making any statement concerning this matter through reason of the fact that Agents of this Division took part in the original investigation.

With expressions of my warm regards, I

Sincerely yours,

Director

NOV 28 1933

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Division of Investigation

U. S. Department of Justice
318 Hayes Building
San Francisco, California.

Mr. Nathan	
Mr. Tolson	
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Glavin	
Mr. Ladd	
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tracy	
Mr. Carson	
Mr. Egan	
Mr. Gurnea	
Mr. Harbo	
Mr. Hendon	
Mr. Jones	
Mr. Quinn	
Mr. Nease	
Miss Gandy	

REV/AP.
7-27

Nov. 27, 1933.

Director,
Division of Investigation,
U.S. Department of Justice,
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir:

DEC 4 - 1933

RECORDED

RE: THOMAS H. THURMOND
JOHN M. HOLMES
BROOKS L. HART - Victim
Kidnaping.

7-375-41
DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION
DEC 8 1933
U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE
NATHAN

With respect to the lynching of the above Subjects on midnight, Nov. 26, 1933, I desire to advise that while Federal indictments were returned against these Subjects recently at San Francisco, Subjects were always in the custody of either the San Francisco Police, where they had been placed for safekeeping, or the Sheriff at San Jose, California. We did question them one afternoon, on Nov. 18, 1933, at San Francisco, in our Division Office, but both Subjects were immediately returned again to the custody of the San Francisco Police.

After the Federal indictments had been returned, no papers were served on Subjects, owing to the fact that on the same date, Nov. 22, 1933, a complaint was signed by Sheriff Enig at San Jose, California, charging both Subjects with kidnaping under the recent new California statute on kidnaping; on the same night, Nov. 22, both Subjects were taken by Sheriff Enig from the San Francisco County Jail to the County Jail at San Jose, where they remained in custody of the State until the lynching on Sunday night, Nov. 26, 1933, so that in no sense of the word was either prisoner in the custody of the Federal Government.

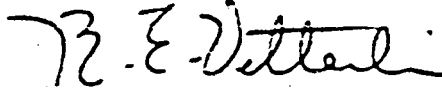
I have been in constant telephone communication with Sheriff Enig of San Jose, and have offered him the full service of this entire office, and was in contact with him on either Friday or Saturday, Nov. 24th or Nov. 25th on the subject matter. He advised me that he felt they had the situation well in hand, and expressed his appreciation of the offer of assistance by this office.

-2-

and as a result no Agent was in San Jose at the time the lynching took place.

The foregoing is for your information to show the exact status of the Division in this case at the time the lynching took place.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "R.E. Vetterli".

R.E. Vetterli,
Special Agent in Charge.

AIR MAIL.

W

November 27, 1933.

Mr. Nathan	
Mr. Tolson	
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Glavin	
Mr. Ladd	
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tracy	
Mr. Carson	
Mr. Egan	
Mr. Gurnea	
Mr. Harbo	
Mr. Hendon	
Mr. Jones	
Mr. Quinn	
Mr. Nease	
Mr. Lester	
Mr. Locke	

W

MEMORANDUM

Mr. Gridley, United Press, telephoned to obtain from me an expression with reference to the lynching in San Jose, California. I informed Mr. Gridley that I had no comment to make.

RECORDED
&
INDEXED

7-375-42
DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION
DEC 1 1933

DEC 2 1933

UNITED STATES BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

~~SECRET~~ 7000. R.

THE RISE OF THE NEW

FILE NO.

2000

REPORT MADE AT: San Francisco, Cal.	DATE WHEN MADE: 11/27/33	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE: 11/27/33	REPORT MADE BY: R. J. Vetterli-13
TITLE: JAMES C. HANCOCK JOHN M. GALT BROOKS L. HART - Victim.			CHARACTER OF CASE: MURDER

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

Photo regarding extortion angle disclosed to the Federal Grand Jury at San Francisco on 12-1-54, showing an individual returned to the United States, after having been deported, and charged with conspiracy, three counts charge in the caption of threatening letters through the U.S. mails, threatening bodily harm, and three counts threatening the son of a Federal Judge, the U.S. mails to effect same, all of Victim Donald E. Hart, occurred in the Francisco Bay, November 20th, positively identified, and was charged with the same people against unity act of San Jose, California, December 1st, 1954, to be a threat, and forcibly took control of said subject, was charged with the same, and was charged with the same.

DETAILS

[illegible]

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

RECEIVED AND
FORWARDED

ORDER THE BEST

WILSON

王明賢、王伯山等，因爭奪遺產

9. 300. 17243 1800. 1800. 1800.

both Subjects, which included seven counts, one count charging conspiracy of both Subjects to violate the extortion angle of the recent kidnapping act, three counts charging the sending of threatening letters through the United States mails, threatening bodily harm, and three counts charging the sending of letters through the United States mails to extort money.

As soon as the Grand Jury returned a true bill, a wire was dispatched to the Division, informing them of this action.

Subjects, on the night of November 22nd, were both removed to San Jose, California, from the San Francisco County Jail, by Sheriff Tamm and his forces, and were lodged in the custody of the State at San Jose, California. The federal warrants were not served on Subjects, so that both Subjects have been continuously in possession and under the control of the State since their apprehension. Both Subjects were lodged for safe keeping in the County Jail at San Jose, California.

Complaints were filed by Sheriff Baig at San Jose, California, on November 23, 1933, charging murder and violation of the State Kidnaping Act, and preliminary hearing in State Court was set for sometime in the forepart of the week commencing November 27th.

On November 26, 1933, the body of Victim Brooke L. ... Street, Redwood City, California, and Leonard L. Dalva, 623 Maple Street, Redwood City, California. There two men were out in that area, and at a point about one-half mile northeast of the San Mateo Bridge, on the Alameda side, they found the body of the Victim. Positive identification was made by Louis A. Roach, who was a close personal friend of Mr. Dalva, the father of Victim, and the manager of one of the departments in the Department Store. He made his identification from the clothing worn by the body, and a bullet which was found in the pockets.

Mr. J. E. Conner, a dentist at San Jose, identified the body as that of the Victim by the teeth, while Mr. N. Henshaw, the coroner at San Jose, identified the body as that of the Victim by the clothing, positive identification was made by the clothing and the bandage on the foot, so that positive identification was made that the body found was that of the Victim Brooke L. Dalva.

As soon as this information was published by the press, mobs began gathering at San Jose, California, and between 11 p.m. and midnight, Sunday, November 26th, a mob of over three thousand people swarmed the County Jail at San Jose, broke into the jail in spite of being gas bombed, which were thrown by officers endeavoring to keep them out, and were

Thompson and Palmer were taken to a park directly across the street from the Court House at San Jose, California, where they were beaten and lynched. This ended the first real, legitimate kidnapping on the Pacific Coast.

Disposition of the case is attached hereto, with respect to the Federal indictment.

In a telephonic communication with United States Attorney Moritz, this morning, he advised he desired to discuss one or two angles with this Agent, and accordingly, for the time being, the matter will be carried as pending.

PENDING

U. S. Federal Building
Kansas City

November 25, 1933.

Special Agent in Charge,
Division of Investigation,
U. S. Department of Justice,
617 Federal Building,
Los Angeles, California.

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to your telegram to this office under date of November 14, 1933, wherein you request certain information concerning Jack Ruby and his associates in view of the fact unconfirmed rumors were received at that time that Ruby was believed to have been involved in the kidnapping plot in connection with the case.

Since the above file has been received, it is noted that Ruby has been reported from being a participant in this kidnapping. It is believed sufficient to state at this time that the information furnished telegraphically by this office to your office under date of November 14, 1933, was obtained through Mr. George Harrison, County Attorney at San Antonio, Texas, Mr. Harrison being particularly interested in the apprehension of Ruby as he is wanted in that county as a suspect in a murder case.

Our administrative process of the case file of this office is being considered as referred upon completion to the office of origin with this letter.

Very truly yours,
Director

DEC 4 1933

RECORDED

7-15744

DEC 4 1933

DEC 4 1933

Division of Investigation
U. S. Department of Justice
318 Hewes Building
San Francisco, California.

Mr. Nathan	.....
Mr. Tolson	.....
Mr. Clegg	.....
Mr. Glavin	.....
Mr. Ladd	.....
Mr. Nichols	.....
Mr. Rosen	.....
Mr. Tracy	.....
Mr. Carson	.....
Mr. Egan	.....
Mr. Gurnea	.....
Mr. Hendon	.....
Mr. Lester	.....
Mr. Quinn	.....
Mr. Nease	.....
Mr. Gandy	.....

REV/AP.
7-27

Nov. 27, 1933.

Director,
Division of Investigation,
U.S. Department of Justice,
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir:

Re: THOMAS H. THURMOND
JOHN M. HOLMES
BROOKE L. HART - Victim
Kidnaping.

You have on hand at Washington, the original letters written by Subjects in the above captioned case, together with samples of printing. I also have in the San Francisco Office, in my file, the numerals 1 and 2, which were prepared by Special Agent Conroy, and the writer, which were placed in the Hart Department Store window, as requested by the kidnapers. In addition I have on hand the wallet or pocketbook of the Victim, Brooke L. Hart, which was retrieved from the San Francisco Bay.

If any of the foregoing will be of interest to you for any exhibit, will you please advise me.

Very truly yours,

R.E. Vetterli
R.E. Vetterli,
Special Agent in Charge.

DEC 8 1933

7-375-45
RECORDED
DEC 2 1933
INDEXED
DEC 1 1933

TH:CSH
7-375-45

RECORDED

DEC 8 1933

December 6, 1933.

Special Agent in Charge,
Division of Investigation,
U. S. Department of Justice,
315 Hayes Building,
San Francisco, California.

Dear Sir:

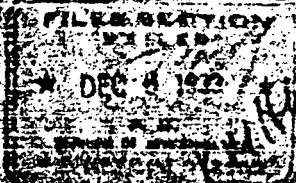
Reference is made to your letter dated November 27, 1933 in the case entitled THOMAS E. THURMOND; JOHN W. SOLMS; BROOKS L. HART, Victim--KIDNAPING.

In this letter you advise that there are contained in the files of the San Francisco Office the numbers 1 and 2 which were placed in the Hart Department Store window as requested by the kidnapers, and that you also have the wallet or pocketbook of Brooks L. Hart which was retrieved from San Francisco Bay.

It is not believed that these articles should be included in the Division's exhibit at this time, inasmuch as at present the exhibit is confined to firearms collected in cases investigated by the Division.

Very truly yours,

Director.



Division of Investigation

U. S. Department of Justice

318 Hayes Building
San Francisco, California.

Mr. Nathan	.....
Mr. Tolson	.....
Mr. Clegg	.....
Mr. Glavin	.....
Mr. Ladd	.....
Mr. Nichols	.....
Mr. Rosen	.....
Mr. Tracy	.....
Mr. Carson	.....
Mr. Egan	.....
Mr. Gurnea	.....
Mr. Hendon	.....
Mr. Jones	.....
Mr. Quinn	.....
Mr. Nease	.....
Miss Gandy	.....

REV/AP.

Nov. 27, 1933.

Director,
Division of Investigation,
U.S. Department of Justice,
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir:

Re: THOMAS H. THURMOND
JOHN M. HOLMES
BROOKE L. HART - Victim
Kidnaping.

For your information I am attaching the newspaper
articles dealing with the recovery of the body of Brooke Hart
in San Francisco Bay, together with articles describing the
lynching of both Subjects at San Jose, California, about
midnight, Nov. 26, 1933.

Very truly yours,

R. E. Vetterli

R. E. Vetterli,
Special Agent in Charge.

Encls.

F.W.
cc
cc

RECORDED

INDEXED

DEC 5 1933

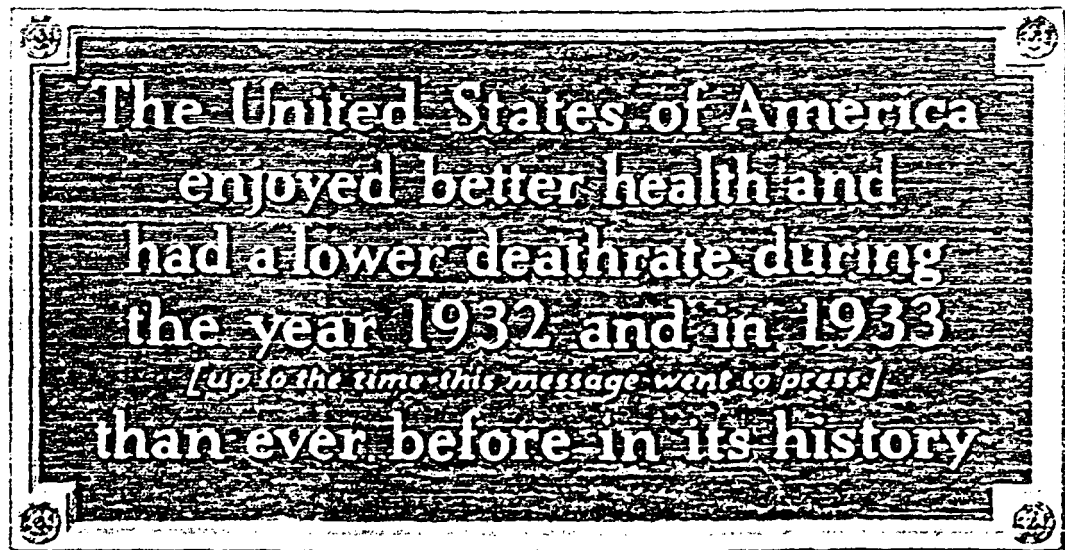
7-375-46
DEC 5 1933



Hon., John Edgar Hoover
Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D.C.

100-111111

74



Keep up Momentum

WHEN you read that during many recent months, in spite of the financial depression, the American people enjoyed better health and had a lower deathrate than ever before, you may wonder why. One outstanding reason is that our people were well prepared, physically, to resist sickness.

In past decades, millions and millions of dollars were invested to prevent as well as to cure disease. They returned rich health dividends. The movement for healthier living conditions in all parts of the country had gained such momentum that temporary obstacles and difficulties failed to check its progress.

You know that the deathrate from tuberculosis has declined steadily. You know that smallpox, typhoid and diphtheria can be prevented. You hope to see the day when in this country whooping cough, measles and scarlet fever will disappear, as yellow fever and cholera did—thanks to scientific preventive methods. Scientists are faithfully working day and night for these victories.

The lower deathrate is due in no small measure to the present efficiency of hospital and nursing services that have

required years in which to develop. In assuring pure water, safe milk, clean food, swept streets and proper sewerage systems your Health and Sanitation Departments did their part in making health records in 1932 and 1933.

Some of the forces upon which the health of people depends are financed by state, county and local appropriations. But many of the forces which have contributed so greatly to general welfare—the Red Cross, the Tuberculosis Associations, the Cancer Societies and others—are largely dependent upon private contributions.

Today the forward health movement has been slowed down in some localities because of reduced appropriations and smaller contributions. In certain other communities much of the official health work has stopped.

While the people of our country are working shoulder to shoulder, collectively and individually, to restore material prosperity, no greater tragedy could befall them than to sacrifice their greatest wealth—their health. If you would have increasing health and decreasing disease, keep up the power and the momentum of the health movement.



November 25, 1933

The Toxicologist, a Modern Detective

Some of the Hundreds of Murder and Poison Mysteries Solved in the New York City Bellevue Laboratories of Dr. Alexander O. Gettler

By WAYNE B. PARSONS

This is the second of two articles describing the toxicological laboratories at Bellevue Hospital in New York

THE popular version of the old traditional detective stories was the sleuth who constructed his case from slight clues obtained by keen observation and deduction. But in this modern day there are many baffling mysteries that can be solved only with the aid of science. Among the branches of science most valuable to the authorities, chemistry stands highest. Last



Aches of organs of a victim of radium poisoning, showing the presence of radium. No camera was used to make the original picture; the gamma rays penetrating lead plates to a photographic film placed in a dark room for ten days.

week the highly efficient department of chemical analysis, established fifteen years ago at Bellevue Hospital in New York, was described.

Dr. Alexander O. Gettler, New York's toxicologist, has put his Bellevue laboratory to work on hundreds of difficult murder and poison cases. The famous Starr Faithful, Vivian Gordon, Becker, Ruth Snyder-Judd Gray, and Costello cases, to mention a few that have flashed across the front pages of newspapers, have been tackled by Dr. Gettler's department. But of all the mysteries of the past fifteen years, the most baffling, he asserts, was one that occurred in 1922. This is the story of its solution weeks later.

An elderly, well-to-do couple was found dead in their suite of rooms in a first-class residential hotel in Brooklyn. They had returned the night before from a vacation in Palm Beach. No clue as to the manner of their deaths could be unearthed. Both were more than seventy years old; they had led quiet, unassuming, respectable lives. Murder seemed preposterous, since there appeared to be no motive and no robbery. Many curious theories were put forth by the investigating authorities, among them the belief that some one had injected some rare poison into some plums which they had eaten.

Autopsies of the two bodies revealed nothing specific as to the cause of death. Following his usual procedure, Dr. Gettler analyzed all the organs for all conceivable poisons, but found nothing. During an application of a series of the most sensitive tests, however, he did get a faint indication of a very small trace of cyanid. Taking up the lead, Dr. Gettler examined the bones

without question that the death of both persons was due to hydrocyanic acid gas. Cyanid, when administered for murder or suicide, is easy to detect, in this case the traces were very small, and were in the lungs, brain and liver, indicating inhalation. No cyanid was found in the stomach.

The deduction from this finding was that the elderly couple had been killed by gas which had originated somewhere in the hotel. The solution of this mystery, which was not as simple at the time as the telling indicates, came about as follows. The elderly couple resided in the hotel annex, adjoining the main building, and had returned to their rooms late at night from Florida unbeknown to the hotel manager. Carrying their own keys, the couple did not stop at the hotel office. At the time, no other suites in the annex were occupied. In the morning, the hotel manager, believing the annex to be unoccupied, set fumigators at work in the apartment directly below the one in which the couple was sleeping. Fumes seeped into the room above, sufficient to cause death.

Dr. Gettler points to this case as an outstanding example of the need of careful chemical analysis into the causes of deaths.

The Insurance Motive

Many murder and suicide cases are linked in some way to insurance policies. There was, for example, the well-planned case of a few years ago, which Dr. Gettler was called upon to solve.



Bones of a woman who had absorbed radium, left as photographed by a camera, and right as the radium photographed itself on a photographic film plate through lead with out the use of camera lens.

Two undertakers were partners in their business in a rural community. One of them took out a large life-insurance policy, with double indemnity for death due to accident, and made his partner the beneficiary.

Not many months later a hangover that they owned was burned to the ground. The burned body of a man was found in the ruins. The undertaker who was the beneficiary claimed that this body was that of his partner, and put in his claim for the insurance with double indemnity on the ground of accidental burning to death.

of the body was completely burned off. The feet and part of one leg were burned off. No identification was possible. By measurement of the bones that were left, it was estimated that the deceased had been about two inches taller than the missing undertaker. Some parts of the internal organs were still in good shape; that is, they were not burned or leached. Examination of the lungs showed a well-developed case of pneumonia, while the undertaker in question was seen in apparently perfect health only two hours before the fire.

The possibility of suicide by poison was ruled out by toxicological analysis. Furthermore, the autopsy revealed that the body found in the ruins was dead when the fire started. It also revealed something else. Formaldehyde was found present in sodium formate, strongly indicating that the body had been embalmed. Solution: The undertaker had planted in the house the body of a man who had died of pneumonia and who had been embalmed for burial. Then they had set fire to the house, and the insured undertaker disappeared.

Together with Dr. Harrison Martland, medical examiner of Essex County (Newark), New Jersey, Dr. Gettler succeeded a few years ago in isolating radium from human organs. By physical and chemical methods they were able to prove through traces found in bones and tissues that radium was the cause of death of a number of women who had been working with illuminating material in a New Jersey fac-



tory. The women had absorbed the radium by wetting brushes with their tongues. Dr. Gettler had also traced the cause of death of one person to drinking of a radium water. Some radium was absorbed by these victims that the gamma rays photographed themselves on laboratory plates without the use of a camera.

The range of poisons used for murder is wide. On the basis of his analysis of 30,000 bodies, Dr. Gettler said the most commonly used poisons are strychnine, cyanid, morphine, heroin, cocaine, alcohol, and

Haggard and near collapse the father disclosed that he visited Holmes in the county jail Sunday a few hours before the son was dragged out to his death by the hanging mob.

By Edward Freeman
BAN JOHN CALL, Nov. 15
new series of telephone calls and
notes have been received by Alan
F. Hart, husband of Brooks Hart,
missing 12-year-old youth. It was
talesing how they upon good au-
thority.
St. Joseph, Wis., wife of Santa
Clara County refused to disbelieve
confirm the fact that the mes-
sages offered no extra Hart alibi
for the October 24-25-26 period,
which was demanded.

Stephen of Redwood City, the hunters towed the body to shore. Final identification of the body was made by Louis Weiss, manager of the men's department of J. J. Hart store, who declared he had seen young Hart all of the time which still clung to the body. This was the second time a new

DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Laboratory Report

Case: THOMAS J. THURMOND, et al; B. Hart, Victim;
Specimen: Kidnaping.

Handprinting of Thurmond and Holmes.

Examination requested by: San Francisco Office.

Date received: November 29, 1933. A telegram was forwarded for such specimens
before receipt of the letter.
Examination desired:

Compare handprinting.

Date of Report: December 1, 1933.

Result of examination:

Examination by: C. J. Appel.
621

November 29. It is believed that the specimen of the handprinting
of Thurmond is identical with the handprinting on the extortion letters,
notwithstanding the admissions of the man in a letter from the San
Francisco office.

3 - Director
2 - San Francisco.
2 - Laboratory.

RECORDED

DEC 5 1933

7-375-49	
DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION	
DEC 4 1933	
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	

Division of Investigation

U. S. Department of Justice
318 Hayes Building
San Francisco, California.

Mr. Nathan	_____
Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Clegg	_____
Mr. Glavin	_____
Mr. Ladd	_____
Mr. Nichols	_____
Mr. Quinn	_____
Mr. Lester	_____
Mr. Locke	_____

RE: IS
Refer file
#7-27.

November 28, 1933.

Director,
Division of Investigation,
U.S. Department of Justice,
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir:

Re: THOMAS H. THURMAN
JOHN M. HOLMES
BROOKE L. HART - Victim.
Kidnaping.

For your information, I am in receipt of a letter from Dr. J. E. Conner, the dentist of Victim Brooke L. Hart, in the above captioned matter, in which he supplies a chart, and encloses a letter stating that the teeth examined in the body which was found, tally completely as to fillings, etc., with the mouth of Brooke L. Hart, and is positive that the body found was that of the Victim.

The mouth work and fillings tally completely.

Very truly yours,

R. E. Vetter
R. E. VETTER,
Special Agent in Charge.

RECORDED

DEC 7 1933

7-375-47
DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION
DEC 4 1933

W

SPC:LR

November 19, 1933.

Special Agent in Charge,
Division of Investigation,
U. S. Department of Justice,
415 Essex Building,
San Francisco, California.

Dear Sir:

During the recent conference of the Special Agents in Charge at Washington it was recommended that a list of each important kidnapping and extortion case, together with the *modus operandi* and methods of solution and investigation, be prepared and forwarded to each field office.

Accordingly, it is requested that you prepare such a report, and forward one copy of same to each field office, in the *ROCKE L. RIFE* kidnapping case.

Very truly yours,

Director.

NOV 21 1933

DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

RECORDED

7-975-47
NOV 21 1933
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

RECEIVED
FBI
DEC 28 1933

b7c
General Delivery
Maxville, Tenn.
Dec., 1, 1933

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D.C.

Sir:
Not to discount the identity of the Hart body, but due
to reports on this case up to the finding of the body,
caused thought that this might be a trick case to revive
an old case.

Submitted for your notation;

1. Body identified by clothing
2. Confession of crime
 - A. By two men
 - B. No doubt true
 - (1) As far as part played
 - (2) ...
3. Call just before finding the body
 - A. Offering to return alive
4. Call came while men were in jail
5. Men lynched
6. If involved or connected in anyway
 - A. With others
 - B. This worst had not been

File
SPC

Handwritten signature/initials

RECORDED
&
INDEXED

7-375-50
Sincerely,
b7c

DEC 6 1933

Postal Telegraph

NOT RECORDED	
CABLE	
DATE	
NUMBER	
RECEIVED	
BY	
INITIALS	



ALL AMERICA
CABLES

COMMERCIAL
CABLES

RECEIVED	
DATE	
TIME	

Following Message, subject to the terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to

Director
Division of Investigation
U.S. Department of Justice
Washington D.C.

Hart Kidnaping Body Recovered Today near San Mateo Bridge
Identified by two employees of Hart store by jewelry found
on body.

Vetterli

Govt. Rate Collect
2:20 P.M.
11/28/33

7-375
DEC 2 1933



Handwritten initials and date: 11/28/33

UNITED STATES BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

San Francisco, California

LA FILE NO. 7-23

REPORT MADE AT: Los Angeles, Calif.	DATE WHEN MADE: 12-2-33	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE: 11-11-33	REPORT MADE BY: W. H. Rott
TITLE: UNKNOWN SUBJECTS. BROCK HART - VICTIM			CHARACTER OF CASE: EXTORTION

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

In compliance with telephonic request of San Francisco office, Agents in this office assisted Special Agent Philipbrick in searching SS Lurline at Wilmington, California. Search failed to disclose any information.

RM

Upon receipt of telephonic request from the San Francisco Division Office, Special Agents Knorr and Rott of the Los Angeles Division Office proceeded to Wilmington, California, where the SS Lurline, ship belonging to the Kaiser Navigation Company, was located as of 11/11/33.

- COPIES OF THIS REPORT FURNISHED:
- 2 Division
 - 2 San Francisco
 - 2 Los Angeles

DEC 8 1933 A.M. DEC 8 1933

Upon arrival of the ship, Agents found San Francisco Police Detectives and Special Agent Philbrick of the San Francisco office; and a thorough search of the ship was made, but no information was secured, pertaining to instant matter.

REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO OFFICE OF ORIGIN

JER:ECB

November 16, 1933.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

On the evening of November 9, 1933, Mr. Brooks Hart, age 22, a graduate of the University of Santa Clara and a son and partner of Alexander J. Hart, one of San Jose's wealthiest merchants, was kidnaped at about 6:00 p.m., while on his way home from the department store operated by his father and himself. His failure to arrive at home on schedule time caused his family to become uneasy, and about 10:00 p.m., two telephone calls were received from San Francisco at his home, advising that the son, Brooks Hart, was being held and would be released upon payment of \$40,000 ransom.

The San Francisco Office of the Division of Investigation of the U. S. Department of Justice, together with the local police of San Francisco, San Jose, and the sheriff of San Jose immediately initiated an investigation. The authorities had the fullest cooperation and assistance of the victim's father. I immediately ordered a special squad of Agents to proceed to San Francisco in order to augment the group of Agents we have regularly stationed there, selecting men especially trained in the handling of kidnaping cases. Between November 9 and November 15, several letters and telephone calls were received from the kidnapers, and last evening a phone call was received at the residence of Mr. Alexander J. Hart, and through investigative activities of the Agents of this Division, together with the sheriff of San Jose, California, Harold T. Thurmond, 28 years of age, was taken into custody at 7:30 p.m. A thorough interrogation of Thurmond by the Agents of this Division brought about a full confession, involving one John H. Holmes, 29 years of age, who was taken into custody at a hotel in San Jose, California. The confession of Thurmond disclosed that Holmes and Thurmond kidnaped Mr. Brooks Hart on the evening of November 9 about 6:00 p.m. and drove to the San Mateo bridge. There they killed Hart and bound his arms with wire, and attaching some bricks to the body, threw the body into San Mateo Bay. Holmes and Thurmond then proceeded to write the letters and to put through the telephone calls, demanding \$40,000 ransom.

Holmes and Thurmond have been removed from San Jose to San Francisco in order to insure safe keeping by reason of the possible arousing of public opinion against them for their act of murder.

While this case is a Federal case in that the mails were used, in view of the fact that there is no charge of murder which will be lodged against these two men, it is contemplated that the case will be turned over to State authorities for prosecution.

The Chief of Police of San Jose, Mr. J. E. Black; the sheriff of San Jose, Mr. Enig; and the Chief of Police of San Francisco, Mr. William J. Quinn, have rendered excellent cooperation and assistance to the Federal authorities in this matter. The Agent in Charge of our San Francisco Office, Mr. R. E. Vetterli, and the Agent in Charge of our Kansas City Office who proceeded to San Francisco by plane, Mr. E. J. Conroy, directed the details of this investigation at San Jose. These Agents in Charge were in telephonic communication with this office at Washington throughout the entire investigation.

San Jose, Calif.
Dec. 5th, 1933

Honorable J. Edgar Hoover
Washington D.C.

Dear Mr. Hoover;

After writing you I found that the D.C. license that worried me
belonged to our congressman Arthur Free and his family.

But they live where Nicholson lived while they were away at
congress.

It is this man Nicholson who has one of the autos seen at 198
So. 12th the same time that six others were there.

The man whom I said I believed was at the head of the Hart
ransom plot that included Thurmood and Holmes and whom I
believe to be the one I saw in Fuggles Drug store the 14th
of November telephoning and I believe Holmes was the one with
him in the store and Thurmood was outside waiting for them,

~~Thurmood~~ was in 729903 (729903) Cal 93 a Ford Zeedor and
the handle of the car was broken off on the drivers side.

The man's name who owned that car is
must be right because another car registered to
was near this car on San Salvador street.

They may be help at this place.

An important finding is that it was at the Spangler and Grabb
garage in Milpitas where Thurmood said he waited for Holmes to
come and bring Hart.

Now I am working to find out if any of the names of Thurmood
or Holmes are registered in the states around New
Jersey.

There is another thing which I want to call to your attention.

Some time back I asked at the South East branch of the Bank of
America to have some bills checked for Lindbergh numbers.

DEC 9 1933

INDEXED

Mr. Shepard who is at the head of the bank and a man I know well, said they could not find those numbers.

I asked again at the Postal Savings and Mr. Hoins there told me they had no numbers of those bills.

I wrote Haskins bureau at Washington to see if he knew whether there were really any numbers of the ransom money and he said the treasury dept at Washington would have them.

While every thing is quiet and these people are not suspecting they might be watched could you in some way check up on these numbers where ever Thurmond, Holmes and one other name I believe is very important but have not made the connections yet. It is Park of the Vogue Apts on 4th and Julian Streets here in San Jose. b7c

They began to make repairs on this large apt house just after the baby was taken or at least after the ransom money was gotten.

I have thought they might be paying small amounts to some building and loan.

There are two brothers or men at Milpitas who are cattle men and I wish a check could be made on them. They are

I have thought right along that the Lindbergh baby is not dead. b7c

It could be so.

Tell at these parks on 4th and Julian or near there at night when the train switches down about 8 o'clock I see a short man of the type I have seen all along in my observations with a pale baby of the type and size of Lindy.

This man is either a Dane or a Swede because I engaged him in conversation, that I might get a good look at the baby.

I sat through the movies of the baby when they were being shown here and there was a mannerism that baby had that this one had. A peculiar twist of the eyes.

The eyes are a sort of greenish blue as far as I could see in the lamp light.

I have seen this pale child there with this man twice just as I was passing.

These people are either in the Vogue Apts or near there.

When I went past later the man was hurrying east on Julian but I thought this was a blind.

I know you will have the right methods to look into this and I feel so rested and confident that you will carry it through.

It would be wonderful to find that baby alive wouldn't it.

I am so sorry I made the mistake about the Press. Please excuse me.

I was so upset about the Matt case it made me suspicious of many whom I should not have been.

I feel so happy to be able to write you about this last hypothesis in my findings because I know you will give it a fair trial and throw it out if it proves not to work out as I wish it would.

Very Sincerely Yours

b7c

San Jose, Calif.
Nov. 21, 1933

Mr. Nathan
Mr. Tolson
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Jones
Mr. Quinn
Mr. Nease
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Nease
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Pennington

The National Bureau Penology
Mr. Hoover.

Washington, D.C.

I believe that the ransom notes written by the Kidnappers of Brook Hart in San Jose have been written by the same hands that wrote the Lindbergh ransom cards.

My conclusion is reached by the comparison of the letter O.

I used the card printed in the True Detective for Nov. 1932 page 8.

This periodical is published by New Metropolitan Edition Corporation Inc. Dunellen N.J.

The ransom notes in the Hart kidnaping are printed in the Mercury Herald and the Oakland Tribune.

The o is invariably written small in connection with capital letters in the printed parts.

The O in police and close in the Lindbergh printing.

The o in follows, contact, another, Hart.

The oo is very characteristic. The oo in look and good in the Lindbergh printing.

The oo in Brook.

Another characteristic way of telling about the Hart contact is noticed. All the notes seem to plan definitely for future meetings.

But I also believe that proof can be made to see if these men now in captivity wrote these notes. The writing of each can be noted.

There might be some one else, a master mind whom I should like to see in captivity so please act secretly to see if these things will work out.

7-375-54
RECEIVED
NOV 23 1933

64494M

December 7, 1933.

RECORDED 7-275-54

167C

DEC 11 1933 San Jose, California.

Dear Madam:

The Division has received your letter of November 21, 1933, addressed to the National Bureau Penology.

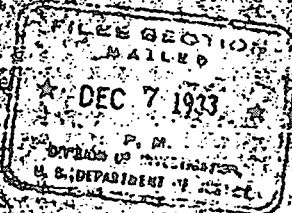
Your interest and courtesy in forwarding the information concerning the apparent similarity of the ransom notes in the Hart case with the handwriting in the Lindbergh notes is appreciated.

The Division has a local office in San Francisco, California, the address of which is as follows:

Special Agent in Charge,
Division of Investigation,
U. S. Department of Justice,
515 Howe Building,
San Francisco, California.

Very truly yours,

Director.



[Handwritten signatures and initials]

December 8, 1965.

2000

AN examination was made by technical experts of the Identification Unit of the extortion notes in this case, including the postal card and no latent prints could be developed on the notes. It would appear that particular effort was used to avoid leaving fingerprints on these notes. Fragmentary formations developed on the surface of the letter by use of chemical reagents appear to be imprints caused by the pressure of a soiled fabric as might have been caused by holding the paper firmly while writing with a handkerchief or shirt sleeve.

Several fragmentary latent fingerprints were developed on the outside of the envelopes. These have been compared with the finger impressions of Edward G. Thurmond, our #75666 and John M. Holmes, our #78567 and in no instance are the latent prints found to be identical with these fingerprints.

Very truly yours,
 Roy Lee Bunker

Setting the Document

RECORDED

FLAME SECTION
MAILED

DEC 19 1964

1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025, 2026, 2027, 2028, 2029, 2030, 2031, 2032, 2033, 2034, 2035, 2036, 2037, 2038, 2039, 2040, 2041, 2042, 2043, 2044, 2045, 2046, 2047, 2048, 2049, 2050, 2051, 2052, 2053, 2054, 2055, 2056, 2057, 2058, 2059, 2060, 2061, 2062, 2063, 2064, 2065, 2066, 2067, 2068, 2069, 2070, 2071, 2072, 2073, 2074, 2075, 2076, 2077, 2078, 2079, 2080, 2081, 2082, 2083, 2084, 2085, 2086, 2087, 2088, 2089, 2090, 2091, 2092, 2093, 2094, 2095, 2096, 2097, 2098, 2099, 2100, 2101, 2102, 2103, 2104, 2105, 2106, 2107, 2108, 2109, 2110, 2111, 2112, 2113, 2114, 2115, 2116, 2117, 2118, 2119, 2120, 2121, 2122, 2123, 2124, 2125, 2126, 2127, 2128, 2129, 2130, 2131, 2132, 2133, 2134, 2135, 2136, 2137, 2138, 2139, 2140, 2141, 2142, 2143, 2144, 2145, 2146, 2147, 2148, 2149, 2150, 2151, 2152, 2153, 2154, 2155, 2156, 2157, 2158, 2159, 2160, 2161, 2162, 2163, 2164, 2165, 2166, 2167, 2168, 2169, 2170, 2171, 2172, 2173, 2174, 2175, 2176, 2177, 2178, 2179, 2180, 2181, 2182, 2183, 2184, 2185, 2186, 2187, 2188, 2189, 2190, 2191, 2192, 2193, 2194, 2195, 2196, 2197, 2198, 2199, 2200, 2201, 2202, 2203, 2204, 2205, 2206, 2207, 2208, 2209, 2210, 2211, 2212, 2213, 2214, 2215, 2216, 2217, 2218, 2219, 2220, 2221, 2222, 2223, 2224, 2225, 2226, 2227, 2228, 2229, 2230, 2231, 2232, 2233, 2234, 2235, 2236, 2237, 2238, 2239, 2240, 2241, 2242, 2243, 2244, 2245, 2246, 2247, 2248, 2249, 2250, 2251, 2252, 2253, 2254, 2255, 2256, 2257, 2258, 2259, 2260, 2261, 2262, 2263, 2264, 2265, 2266, 2267, 2268, 2269, 2270, 2271, 2272, 2273, 2274, 2275, 2276, 2277, 2278, 2279, 2280, 2281, 2282, 2283, 2284, 2285, 2286, 2287, 2288, 2289, 2290, 2291, 2292, 2293, 2294, 2295, 2296, 2297, 2298, 2299, 2300, 2301, 2302, 2303, 2304, 2305, 2306, 2307, 2308, 2309, 2310, 2311, 2312, 2313, 2314, 2315, 2316, 2317, 2318, 2319, 2320, 2321, 2322, 2323, 2324, 2325, 2326, 2327, 2328, 2329, 2330, 2331, 2332, 2333, 2334, 2335, 2336, 2337, 2338, 2339, 2340, 2341, 2342, 2343, 2344, 2345, 2346, 2347, 2348, 2349, 2350, 2351, 2352, 2353, 2354, 2355, 2356, 2357, 2358, 2359, 2360, 2361, 2362, 2363, 2364, 2365, 2366, 2367, 2368, 2369, 2370, 2371, 2372, 2373, 2374, 2375, 2376, 2377, 2378, 2379, 2380, 2381, 2382, 2383, 2384, 2385, 2386, 2387, 2388, 2389, 2390, 2391, 2392, 2393, 2394, 2395, 2396, 2397, 2398, 2399, 2400, 2401, 2402, 2403, 2404, 2405, 2406, 2407, 2408, 2409, 2410, 2411, 2412, 2413, 2414, 2415, 2416, 2417, 2418, 2419, 2420, 2421, 2422, 2423, 2424, 2425, 2426, 2427, 2428, 2429, 2430, 2431, 2432, 2433, 2434, 2435, 2436, 2437, 2438, 2439, 2440, 2441, 2442, 2443, 2444, 2445, 2446, 2447, 2448, 2449, 2450, 2451, 2452, 2453, 2454, 2455, 2456, 2457, 2458, 2459, 2460, 2461, 2462, 2463, 2464, 2465, 2466, 2467, 2468, 2469, 2470, 2471, 2472, 2473, 2474, 2475, 2476, 2477, 2478, 2479, 2480, 2481, 2482, 2483, 2484, 2485, 2486, 2487, 2488, 2489, 2490, 2491, 2492, 2493, 2494, 2495, 2496, 2497, 2498, 2499, 2500, 2501, 2502, 2503, 2504, 2505, 2506, 2507, 2508, 2509, 2510, 2511, 2512, 2513, 2514, 2515, 2516, 2517, 2518, 2519, 2520, 2521, 2522, 2523, 2524, 2525, 2526, 2527, 2528, 2529, 2530, 2531, 2532, 2533, 2534, 2535, 2536, 2537, 2538, 2539, 2540, 2541, 2542, 2543, 2544, 2545, 2546, 2547, 2548, 2549, 2550, 2551, 2552, 2553, 2554, 2555, 2556, 2557, 2558, 2559, 2560, 2561, 2562, 2563, 2564, 2565, 2566, 2567, 2568, 2569, 2570, 2571, 2572, 2573, 2574, 2575, 2576, 2577, 2578, 2579, 2580, 2581, 2582, 2583, 2584, 2585, 2586, 2587, 2588, 2589, 2590, 2591, 2592, 2593, 2594, 2595, 2596, 2597, 2598, 2599, 2600, 2601, 2602, 2603, 2604, 2605, 2606, 2607, 2608, 2609, 2610, 2611, 2612, 2613, 2614, 2615, 2616, 2617, 2618, 2619, 2620, 2621, 2622, 2623, 2624, 2625, 2626, 2627, 2628, 2629, 2630, 2631, 2632, 2633, 2634, 2635, 2636, 2637, 2638, 2639, 2640, 2641, 2642, 2643, 2644, 2645, 2646, 2647, 2648, 2649, 2650, 2651, 2652, 2653, 2654, 2655, 2656, 2657, 2658, 2659, 2660, 2661, 2662, 2663, 2664, 2665, 2666, 2667, 2668, 2669, 2670, 2671, 2672, 2673, 2674, 2675, 2676, 2677, 2678, 26

Utahn Takes Part

In Kidnap Capture

OGDEN.—A former Utah agent of the division of investigation, United States department of justice, Monday told in Ogden of some of the details involved in the capture and confession of the kidnapers and slayers of Edward Hart, 22, whose body was found in the San Francisco bay. The agent is Edward E. Conroy, who stopped in Ogden to visit briefly with his mother and to "catch up on some of my sleep."

He was called from his headquarters in Kansas City to travel to San Francisco by airplane and assist in the investigation of the crime. He had done his part in the apprehension of Thomas H. Thurmond and J. M. Holmes, the kidnapers and slayers, and came to Ogden Sunday by airplane to visit with his mother, Mrs. E. M. Conroy, 2525 Adams avenue.

Mr. Conroy said that a simple ruse was employed to trap the friars. A telephone line leading to the Hart home at San Jose was tapped by federal investigators, and when Thurmond called to demand ransom the agents were able to trace the call and were at his side before he had hung up the receiver.

Voices Identified

Mr. Conroy said that when Thurmond was arrested he claimed he was trying to get another number, but that the line was busy. "We took him in and called the Hart home and had him talk over the phone," Mr. Conroy explained. "Mr. Hart positively identified the voice as belonging to the man who had called a few minutes before."

"Of course we had him there, but we could get nothing from him but denials about the actual kidnapping. At first we thought he was just a chiseler who had heard of the kidnapping and was trying to extort a little easy money for himself."

"But when someone happened to mention the possibility of young Thurmond having been murdered Thurmond broke out in a cold sweat, and his anxiety when this line of questioning was pursued gave every indication that he might have a guilty knowledge of the young man's murder."

"We arrested him at 8 p. m. The questioning continued throughout the night, and at 3 a. m. he broke down and confessed the kidnapping and killing, naming Holmes as his accomplice and saying that he thought Holmes was staying at a hotel."

Also Confessed

"Well, we all went over to the hotel and made Thurmond break on Holmes' door and call 'Jack,' which was his first name. When we opened up we had him covered with several revolvers and he surrendered without a struggle."

"Holmes was very unconcerned and denied any connection with the affair, but after he was confronted with the confession of Thurmond, which had been typewritten and signed, he admitted his part in the crime, and the last confession of the two men was made with that of the partner in crime."

"Thurmond showed great remorse and in his crime but Holmes was not visibly affected. When he was driven across the bridge past the scene of the crime, he laughed, joked and whistled in a cheerful manner."

"Holmes formerly was a ghosting salesman and Thurmond ran a filling station. That's how the two became acquainted."

"This case was unique in that it was the first kidnapping case in which the kidnapers have been captured before the ransom had been paid or before the victim had been returned."

Mr. Conroy, phone 10-1111, Ogden, was in Ogden for a few days.

Literary Agent Prepares To Fight Larceny Charge

SEATTLE, Nov. 22.—James Asha, literary agent, was in jail here today, after his arrival from Dallas, Texas, yesterday, ready to fight in the last ditch against a \$5000 grand larceny charge sworn to by Mrs. Sara Shannon of Seattle, accusing him of defrauding her in a plan to win prizes for a novel she wrote.

Asha said her charges were "ridiculous and absurd," adding that while her novel had "possibilities," she protested against any charges in it.

A BIRD OF A BOARDER

DARBY, Pa., Nov. 22.—Wah, a local famous as "the poet of Chicken Hill," found a startling's nest under the eaves of his home—built in 1760. A scrap of hand-made newspaper, of a sort not made for many years, formed part of the nest and woven in with it was a dollar bill—one of the large size withdrawn from circulation several years ago.

DIVORCES GRANTED

One divorce was asked and two were granted Monday in district court. On the ground of cruelty, divorces were given to Myrtle A. Mitchell from Benjamin A. Mitchell and to Anna H. Parker from Joseph A. Parker. Necessity was charged by Hazel A. Hagren, making a divorce from Harry LeRoy Hagren.

Salt Lake City Tribune
11/24/33

Detective From S. L. Gives Notes

(Continued From Page One)

Brooks, Brooks is being treated as well as possible but the case is getting too much publicity for us to hold him any longer. We are sorry to do this because Brooks is a manly lad but he has seen us and is too

"Killing him is the easy way with little risk for us. Relinquishing him is what we demanded the ransom for. Sorry I can't get some further proof for you but I said the writer is a contact and says we do not hold Brooks here, Mr. Hart, unless our principals hear favorably from us by 7:30, 11-15-33, you will not be contacted again. It will be useless. If you comply to our demands put a numeral two where the 1 now is as soon as it is received. Starting 7:29 p.m., 11-15-33, drive south on Montgomery road to Los Angeles, take Haliburton way into L. A. stop at Mayfair hotel. You will get telegram there about release of Brooks."

U. S. Bureau of Investigation

Department of Justice

909 West Thompson Bldg.
Salt Lake City, Utah.

Mr. Nathan

Mr. Tolson

Mr. Clegg

Mr. Glavin

Mr. Ladd

Mr. Nichols

Mr. Rosen

Mr. Tracy

Mr. Carson

Mr. Egan

Mr. Gurnea

Mr. Hendon

Mr. Jones

Mr. Quinn

Mr. Nease

Mr. Gandy

November 21, 1933.

General.

Director,
Division of Investigation,
U. S. Department of Justice,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

Attached you will find news articles appearing in the Deseret News of Salt Lake City and the Salt Lake City Tribune issue of November 18 and 21 respectively.

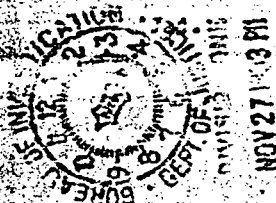
The Division might give consideration to the wisdom of making public the means adopted by agents of the Division in detecting and apprehending violators of the law. To make known the method pursued does, at times, educate the criminally inclined so that future cases become the more difficult to handle. It is a known fact that inmates of jails and prisons are, to a great degree, readers of detective magazines and press reports treating of important criminal cases and it is reasonable that certain of the inmates learn to better evade justice through a knowledge of the modus operandi of the law enforcement officer.

Very truly yours,

John A. Dowd

John A. Dowd

Special Agent in Charge



RECORDED

7-375-56

DEC 13 1933

DEC 12 1933

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

Division of Investigation

U. S. Department of Justice

Washington, D. C.

VAH:GJ

December 1, 1933.

Mr. Nathan	✓
Mr. Tolson	
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Glavin	
Mr. Ladd	
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tracy	
Mr. Carson	
Mr. Egan	
Mr. Gurnea	
Mr. Hendon	
Mr. Jones	
Mr. Quinn	
Mr. Nease	
Miss Gandy	

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR.

With reference to the attached letter received from Agent in Charge Dowd, concerning newspaper reports of the investigation of the kidnaping of Brooke Hart, deceased, at San Jose, California, I believe that Mr. Dowd's comments are to the point.

I think that we should be very careful not to disclose the methods pursued by the special agents of the Division in conducting investigations of kidnaping cases. Possibly it would be well to write Agent in Charge Conroy, who appears to have been quoted in this case.

Respectfully,

V. W. Hughes
V. W. Hughes.

*Letter to
SAC Conroy
12/1/33
Hn*

RECORDED
INDEXED

7-375-56

DEC 12 1933

RECORDED

INDEXED

DEC 13 1933

December 7, 1933:

7-375-56

Mr. E. E. Conroy,
Division of Investigation,
U. S. Department of Justice,
Federal Building, Suite 1,
Kansas City, Missouri.

Dear Sir:

The Division's attention has been called to articles appearing in the Deseret News of Salt Lake City and the Salt Lake City Tribune issues of December 12 and 13 respectively.

The Division notes apparent omissions of detailed statements from you purporting to give investigative details in connection with the Hart kidnapping case.

The Division is of the very positive opinion that at no time and for no reason should the details of investigative activity be given to the press. The Division trusts that you are incorrectly quoted.

Very truly yours,

Director

Sam Jones, Esq.

b7c
address only.

Receipt Required
1st & 2nd Reception
Delivered to Addressee Only

REGISTERED
No. 3011

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Washington
D.C.

Identification Dept.
Department of Justice



Via Air Mail

10c Air Mail

Will you please
return this
letter about 10
minutes after it is
only one I have -

(The Envelope)

b7c

Nov. 27, 1933

Mr. Nathan	✓
Mr. Tolson	✓
Mr. Clegg	✓
Mr. Glavin	✓
Mr. Ladd	✓
Mr. Nichols	✓
Mr. Rosen	✓
Mr. Tracy	✓
Mr. Carson	✓
Mr. Egan	✓
Mr. Gurnea	✓
Mr. Hendon	✓
Mr. Jones	✓
Mr. Quinn	✓
Mr. Nease	✓
Mr. Gandy	✓

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

Since writing you last and sending you the thought that the hand printing in the Hart case was much like that of the card in the Lindbergh case printed in the Nov. 32 True Detective.

If this sample is a specimen I am sure they are very much alike.

I take my lead from the small O which is used so often in connection with every other capital letter.

This seems to be a characteristic.

Something very interesting has come under my observation and I believe it has a very definite bearing on the case.

Did I tell you about the New Jersey car that changed from a N.J. license to a Cal license 9A1242 on October 29th 33 in Los Angeles.

This car I saw circling around the business district about dark the evening the Hart boy was taken or the evening before. I am now checking my dates to make sure.

The number of the New Jersey car was P29329.

The name is [redacted] b7c
Will you have [redacted] checked to see if I might have made a slight mistake in the numbers and this Bert Barnes would have had a Sedan of the next number before or after.

This evening it was on a sedan but the license calls for a roadster.

Another very significant finding in an observation made in a drug store where I went after the children's music lessons to get some thing for my son who was ill.

I saw a fleshy light haired man in the telephone booth that night Nov. 14th at about 8 o'clock. Just out side the booth was a younger rather heavy set man not quite as light haired who was holding on to the door that nobody could get near.

I later learned that a ransom demand was made from this pay phone but I do not know when it was.

Out side was a rather tall, thin, complexioned young man, who was not so heavy, he looked me over carefully.

The girls were sitting in the car outside and I asked them if they took the numbers and they said that they did not take any.

7-375-57

RECORDED

INDEXED

DEC 13 1933

DEC 14 1933

Then a few days later I saw this same heavy set man who phoned getting into a car on my street near the place where I take my two boys to a private school.

The car was 729963 Calif. A Ford 8 coach with the handle of the door on the drivers side broken off.

Then Friday night as I went for Ruth who attends a school quite a distance from home I saw a large car either British Columbia or D.O. The color was Dark green or black for the plates.

There were four boys in it and two got out and were acting funny so I took the number. Since then I had a hunch they might have designs on Ruth.

The number was 3362 and I thought at the time it was a Packard.

We drove around the block instead of turning on the street we were on and as we came over on 14th street there was the car sitting in front of **b7c**

There were the two boys on the steps.

So I have tried in some way to see if these two addresses are connected.

This morning early I did some asking questions of telephone information and found that the names were common to the two addresses but there are two families apparently in each house so I do not know if we can count on that.

The name in common was **b7c**

But there is one other connection with one of the other party **b7c**

is the name.

It is in the

the driver for certain parties who keep their cars **b7c**

It is a man much like this fellow who was driving that New Jersey car that night.

yesterday I took the numbers of all the cars around there as there were many just after the news of the finding of the body of Hart.

Here they are.

71161 Cal. Dodge Sed.

7E9974 Red Cheve Ope.

4H6194 Light Blue Pontiac Rdstr.

6E8836 Blue Pearlless 6E8896 Blue 2000 Cab.

6E8836 Sedan 5H4138 Green Cheve Ope.

6E8836 seemed to be most significant, heavy set, swarthy man

6E8836 seemed to be most significant

It would be wonderful to catch the heads of this gang.

I believe that if you will take time to consider the contents of this letter you will be fully repaid for the search.

It does not seem right that one woman should bear the burden of it when the government has so many to help.

Very Sincerely Yours

(The Governor)

b7c

SFC:RCL

December 11, 1933.

RECORDED

7-375-57
b7c

San Jose, California.

DEC 14 1933

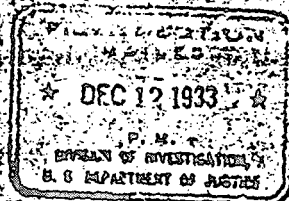
Dear Madam:

Kindly be advised that your letter of November 27, 1933, concerning the Hart and Lindbergh kidnapping cases has been received and given appropriate attention.

As requested by you, same are being returned, herewith, the ransom notes attached to your letter. I wish to thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Very truly yours,

Director.



Enclosure 641029

(No copy of ransom notes returned retained in Div. files.)

SFC:ALH

December 12, 1933

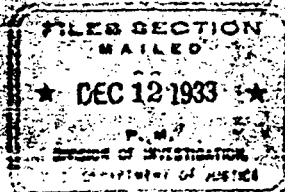
Special Agent in Charge,
Division of Investigation,
U. S. Department of Justice,
333 Hayes Building,
San Francisco, California.

Dear Sir:

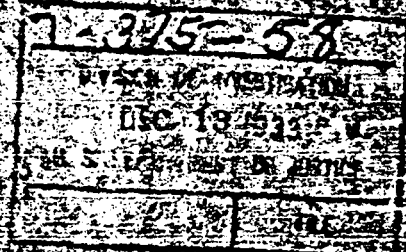
Kindly advise the Division whether the
record covering the whole episode of the kidnapers
and the methods of solution used in the investigation
in the Brooks & Hart kidnaping case has been prepared
and forwarded to the various Division offices.

Very truly yours,

Director.



RECORDED



UNITED STATES BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

FILE NO.

1-27

REPORT MADE AT San Francisco, Cal.	DATE WHEN MADE 12/15/35	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 12/15/35	REPORT MADE BY R. E. Vetterli-13
TITLE THOMAS W. WHEATON JOHN M. HOLMES BROOKS L. BART - Victim.			CHARACTER OF CASE KIDNAPING

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS

Investigation completed. Subjects lynched.



Report of Special Agent in Charge
R. E. Vetterli, San Francisco,
California, dated November 27,
1935.

As stated in report of reference, both subjects, while in the custody of the State, were lynched by a mob of over three thousand people at San Jose, California, November 27th.

Investigation completed.

APPROVED AND FORWARDED <i>R. E. Vetterli</i> Special Agent in Charge	7-375-54 DEC 20 1935
1 U.S. Attorney, San Francisco. 2 San Francisco.	DEC 20 1935

Division of Investigation
U. S. Department of Justice
318 Eewes Building
San Francisco, California.

W.H. Hays PC

Mr. Nathan	_____
Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Clegg	_____
Mr. Glavin	_____
Mr. Ladd	_____
Mr. Nichols	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Tracy	_____
Mr. Carson	_____
Mr. Egan	_____
Mr. Gurnea	_____
Mr. Harbo	_____
Mr. Hendon	_____
Mr. Jones	_____
Mr. Quinn	_____
Mr. Nease	_____
Mr. Lester	_____
Mr. Gandy	_____

REV:IS
Refer file
#7-27.

December 19, 1933.

Director,
Division of Investigation,
U.S. Department of Justice,
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir:

You will find attached hereto an original and one copy of a Brief, prepared by the writer, on the "Thomas H. Thurmond, John M. Holmes, Brooke L. Hart - Victim" kidnaping case, at San Jose, California.

Photostatic copies of this brief are being forwarded to the respective field offices today.

Very truly yours,

R. E. Vetterli

R. E. VETTERLI,
Special Agent
in Charge.

Encs.-2.

W.H. Hays
eb

RECORDED
JAN 8 - 1934

7-375-60
JAN 20 1934

CSatr

February 23, 1934

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. HOLST

There is attached hereto an interesting
write-up on the case of BROCKE L. HART - KIDNAPING.

Respectfully,

Clinton Stein,

Enclosure #691654.

U. S. Department of Justice
Bureau of Investigation
318 Howe Bldg.,
San Francisco, California.

REV:13
Refer file
#7-27.

December 14, 1933.

BRIEF

OF THE KIDNAPING CASE OF

BROOKE L. HART
San Jose, California

THOMAS H. THURMOND
JOHN M. HOLMES
BROOKE L. HART - Victim.
Kidnaping

Prepared by Special Agent in Charge R. E. Fetterli
of the San Francisco, California Division Office

7-325-60

SALIENT FACTS

At 6 p.m., November 9, 1933, Brooke L. Hart, age 22 years, son of a prominent merchant at San Jose, California, left his father's store to secure his personal automobile, which was in a parking lot approximately fifty yards from the Hart Department Store at San Jose, California.

Upon reaching the parking lot, he secured his Studebaker Roadster, conversed for three or four minutes with one of the attendants of the parking lot, then drove to one of the main streets at San Jose, adjacent to the parking lot, a distance of about twenty-five yards, at which point he stopped upon reaching the sidewalk, preparatory to entering the main street, whereupon Subject Holmes opened the door of the Studebaker Roadster, and with gun in hand, forced Victim Hart to drive on in his car, stopping at one or two stop lights in the heart of the business section of San Jose, and out through the main part of town, to a small town known as Milpitas, California, at which point, according to a pre-arranged scheme, Subject Thurmond was waiting along the side of the highway in a Chevrolet car belonging to Holmes, and when Subject Holmes passed in the Studebaker Roadster with the Victim, Subject Thurmond followed them to a point on the highway approximately one and one-half miles from Milpitas, on a road which follows the foothills, at which point they abandoned the Studebaker car belonging to the Victim, and placed the Victim in the back seat of Subject Holmes' Chevrolet car, and Subject Holmes and Thurmond then drove towards the point known as the San Mateo Bridge, in San Mateo, California County, a distance of approximately twenty-five miles.

While Holmes was driving, Thurmond covered young Hart with a revolver, and upon reaching the San Mateo Bridge, the Victim was told to get out of the car, and the gun was transferred from Thurmond to Holmes, who hit the Victim over the head with the butt end of the gun, knocking the Victim to the pavement of the bridge, and while the Victim was held by Subject Holmes, Subject Thurmond bound his feet with wire, running the wire through a cement block; also bound the upper part of his arms, above the elbow, to his body, with wire, and ran this wire through another cement block, which was placed about the middle of the back of the Victim.

The Victim was again hit over the head with the butt end of the revolver, and as he cried for help, practically unconscious, Holmes took hold of the arms and shoulders of the Victim, while Thurmond

-3-

took hold of the legs and feet, and together they boosted the Victim up over the railing of the San Mateo Bridge, and dropped him into the Bay, after which several shots were fired by both Subjects, at the point where it was believed Victim Hart had hit the water.

It might be stated at this point that both Subjects in this case had been involved in several small hi-jacking crimes in San Jose, which developed later, and had intended kidnaping Victim Brooke Hart, and upon its completion, were to cease their operations in crime. They had definitely decided upon a scope of activity, whereby they had purchased a revolver, wire, and cement blocks, so that they might do away with the body of the Victim Brooke Hart, and after the disposal of the Victim, demand \$40,000 ransom from the father. The scheme was simply one of cold, premeditated murder, with the plan of extorting \$40,000 after the murder had been committed.

After tossing the Victim Brooke L. Hart into the San Francisco Bay, both Subjects returned speedily to San Jose, California, at which point Subject Holmes kept an engagement that night with friends, while Subject Thurmond returned to his home in San Jose, changed clothes, and immediately drove in his father's car to San Francisco, California, at which point he telephoned to the Hart home about 9:30 or 10:00 o'clock, November 9, 1933, and advised a sister of the Victim Brooke Hart that her brother had been kidnaped, was being held for \$40,000 ransom, and that further instructions would be received by the family, but if the Police were notified, they would never see the Victim again.

Subject Thurmond returned to San Jose, California that same night, and the following day took a letter, which he and Subject Holmes had prepared, and went to Sacramento, California, at which point this letter was mailed to Mr. Hart, Sr., the father of Victim at San Jose, California, telling him to secure \$40,000, specifying the numbers and amounts of the bills, telling him to await further instructions, and to keep in touch with radio station K.P.O., in Oakland.

Thurmond immediately returned from Sacramento, California to San Jose, California, and the following day left for San Francisco with another letter, which both Subjects had prepared, addressed to Mr. Hart. The letter was mailed from San Francisco to San Jose by Subject Thurmond, wherein Mr. Hart was given instructions to place a numeral "1" in the window of his store at San Jose, indicating that he was ready and willing to comply with the demands of the kidnapers. In this letter they advised Mr. Hart, the father of the Victim, to have a radio installed in his son's car, and proceed on the highway towards Los Angeles, California, outlining the course to be followed, and to have the \$40,000 in a black bag on the right of the seat of the roadster, and to have the rumble seat open.

Mr. Hart could not drive a car, and therefore could not comply.

Later the same night he received a telephone call from Subject Thurmond, inquiring as to why he had not followed instructions, at which time he was told he better follow instructions right away, and that he, no doubt, knew by this time that neither the Police, the Sheriff, nor the Federal Agents could assist him at all in this matter.

On the night of November 14, 1933, a young friend of the Victim received a telephone call from one of the Subjects in this case, directing him to get in touch with Mr. Hart immediately, and to tell Mr. Hart to take the 7:30 train that evening for Los Angeles; that he would be met by a man with a white mask, to whom he should turn over the money. Of course, Mr. Hart did not take this trip.

Later that night he received a further telephone call. On November 15, 1933 a further letter was received by Mr. Hart, advising him that if he ever wanted to see his son again, he must take a car and proceed towards Los Angeles, as had been described in a previous letter, and if he was ready and willing to go through with the deal, he should place a numeral "2" in his store window, where the numeral "1" had been placed.

Accordingly, the numeral "2" was placed in the window, but in view of the fact that Mr. Hart could not drive a car, in large black letters were printed the words "I cannot drive".

As a result, the same night, about 7:30 p.m., November 15, 1933, Mr. Hart received a further telephone call from a pay station in a garage at San Jose, California, in which further instructions were given to him, and while this conversation was taking place with Subject Thurmond, Agents effected the apprehension of Subject Thurmond in the garage at San Jose, while he was still telephoning, and after several hours of questioning, secured a complete confession from him, implicating Subject Holmes.

Accordingly, Agents immediately went to the garage where Subject Holmes' car was stored, searched the car, dismantled it so it could not be driven away, and then took Subject Thurmond to the hotel where Subject Holmes resided, having recently separated from his wife, and when Subject Thurmond knocked at the door, and

called for Subject Holmes, about 2:30 a.m., November 16th, the door was opened by Subject Holmes, and he was immediately taken into custody, and a complete confession secured from him.

Both Subjects were indicted by the Federal Grand Jury at San Francisco, California, under the extortion angle of the so-called "Lindbergh" Act. A preliminary complaint was filed charging both Subjects with kidnaping, at San Jose, California, and both Subjects were returned to San Jose by Sheriff Emig, who had been working constantly on this case, in complete cooperation with Agents.

Subjects, who had been removed to San Francisco, California for safe keeping, were returned to San Jose, California, on the State charge, November 26th, and on November 27th were both taken by a mob of about three thousand people, and lynched across the street from the Court House, in a park.

It appears that the mob had possibly contemplated some action, but were waiting until the body of the Victim had been found, and on the early morning of November 27th, the body of the Victim Brooks L. Hart was located by two duck hunters in the San Francisco Bay, and this same night the mob went into action, and lynched both Subjects.

These are briefly the facts indicating the operations of both Subjects in perpetrating this kidnaping.

METHODS OF INVESTIGATION AND SOLUTION

About midnight, November 9, 1933, a telephone call was received from Chief of Police Black, at San Jose, California, stating that young Brooks L. Hart had disappeared, and stating that a telephone call had been received from San Francisco, from the Whitcomb Hotel, demanding \$40,000 ransom, and stating that further instructions would be received.

The Agent in Charge immediately got in touch with Special Agent William R. Ramsey, Jr., at San Jose, California, who happened to be at San Jose at that particular time, and instructed Agent

Ramsey to get on this case at once, and a new private, unlisted telephone line was immediately run into the Hart residence by the telephone company, to assist in checking further telephone calls. It appeared that Subjects, having used the telephone the night of November 9th, might continue to use this method of contact. A private telephone was installed so that an immediate check might be made.

Arrangements were made with the telephone company so that if any long distance calls were received by the Hart family, Agent Ramsey, who was stationed at the Hart home, would be notified at once, but before the call was completed to the Hart residence, it was to be checked in detail, so that information might be received by Agents first as to from what phone, and what point the call was being received.

Agent Ramsey was given instructions as to the handling of all mail received by Mr. Hart, and as a result, for the next few days, Agent Ramsey not only answered all telephone calls at the Hart residence, but was given a room in the home of Mr. Hart, Sr., opened all mail, and, in fact, took complete charge of all activities at the Hart house.

As soon as Agent in Charge Vetterli was notified of this case by Chief of Police Black, he immediately went to Police headquarters, San Francisco, California, and there effected arrangements with the telephone company, so that if any further calls were placed to the Hart home from San Francisco, or any surrounding points, that before the calls were completed, this Agent would be notified immediately by the chief operator, and a private line was run into the Police Station at San Francisco, and this number was given to the Manager of the telephone company, and the chief long distance operator, so that this line was kept clear at all times.

Officers were stationed at all ferry landings, and on all highways and bridges, to keep a lookout for the car of the Victim Brooke L. Hart, which at this time had not been located. In addition, two radio cars were placed at rest in the vicinity of the Whitcomb Hotel, San Francisco, from which point the first call had been placed to the Hart family at San Jose, California. These radio cars which were placed at rest had their radios tuned in at all times with Police headquarters, and if any developments took place, their numbers were to be called, and simply would be told to go to a certain point. In other words, over the radio the kidnaping was not to be mentioned at all, so that if, per chance, the kidnapers were tuned in, they would have no idea as to the concentrated effort being made.

Arrangements were also made with the Western Union Telegraph Company, and the Postal Telegraph Company, both at San Francisco and San Jose, California, so that if any wires were dispatched to San Jose for Mr. Hart, giving him instructions, this office would be notified at once, and arrangements were so perfected that if anyone telephoned a message by pay station telephone to the Western Union or Postal Telegraph Companies, and by this method transmitted a wire to Mr. Hart, that Agents would be notified immediately.

An all night vigil was maintained at Police headquarters at San Francisco and San Jose on the night of Thursday, November 9th. The afternoon of the 10th further Agents were dispatched to San Jose, at which time the father of the Victim, and the entire family were interviewed, as were all friends, attendants at the Hart store, the proprietor of the parking lot, and employees of the real estate company which is between the parking lot and the street. The diary of the Victim was located, and thoroughly searched for any possible information. All speakeasies and gambling joints in the vicinity of San Jose, California, were scrutinized carefully, and a lengthy interview was had with the fiancée of the Victim, but no information at all was received from anyone, indicating any reason why the Victim should have disappeared, nor was there the slightest bit of evidence indicating anyone had seen anything irregular to indicate there had been a kidnaping.

On Friday, November 10th, the car of Victim was found on the highway, as outlined above, and was immediately searched, and gone over very carefully for fingerprints. None were located. It was later ascertained, however, that Subject Holmes had carefully wiped off the steering wheel and other parts of the car, so that there would be no fingerprints. The gas tank of the car was filled, and the car did not appear to have been in any accident, or run into a curb anywhere.

The people in the vicinity of the spot where the car was found abandoned, were interviewed, but they had no information of value.

On November 11th the first letter was received by Mr. Hart from Sacramento, California. This letter, together with subsequent letters, were handled by Special Agents of the Division, who read them to Mr. Hart, Sr., pointed out various errors in spelling, or discrepancies which appeared therein, and the wording of the letters, so that Mr. Hart might be able to testify properly as to the receipt of the letters, and they were then carefully wrapped in cellophane before being handled by anyone.

Saturday, November 11th, the pocket book of Victim Brooke L. Hart, was found on the railing of an oil tanker, which was loading the ship "Lurline", en route to Los Angeles, and then to Honolulu. This pocket book was found by a third party, and reflected there was no money in it, but the personal cards of Victim Brooke Hart remained therein. It was water soaked, and efforts to secure fingerprints were unavailing.

Believing the Victim might have gone on the ship "Lurline", the Los Angeles office was notified, and Special Agent Philbrick of the San Francisco office proceeded by plane to Los Angeles, California, with the manager of Mr. Hart's Department Store, where the ship was boarded before it docked at Los Angeles, and searched from stem to stern. Victim was not located. Inquiries by Agents at San Francisco at the dock where the oil tanker "Midway" was located, were unavailing, and the individual who found the wallet could not furnish any information.

Reports were received from all up and down the State that the Victim had been seen at this point or another point.

During all this time Special Agent Ramsey remained at the Hart house, never leaving it, and he was accorded complete cooperation by the Hart family. Several conferences had been had by Agent in Charge Vetterli with Mr. Hart, Sr., and other members of his family, but they could not furnish any possible motive.

Certain facts indicated that the kidnaping was possibly an amateur's job, owing to the fact that while Mr. Hart, Sr., was quite wealthy, and owns a beautiful home, he is in straitened condition financially at the present time, and it is not believed that any professional kidnaper would have taken his son without knowing his financial condition, which would have prevented his paying any \$40,000 ransom. In addition, in the first letter received by Mr. Hart, he was instructed to keep in touch with radio station K.P.O., at Oakland. This angle did not indicate that it was any gang of professional kidnapers, because it simply enlarged the possibility of locating the kidnapers through another source.

Then again Mr. Hart was told to have a radio installed in his son's Studebaker car. The son already had a radio in his car, and it is not believed that a real professional kidnaper would have been mistaken as to this angle. Further in a later letter Mr. Hart was instructed to drive his son's car towards Los Angeles, California, and it

was believed that any professional kidnaper would have ascertained whether or not Mr. Hart, Sr., could drive.

A further fact indicated it was the job of amateurs - the finding of Victim Brooke Hart's wallet, which was possibly the best means of identification, indicating that the kidnapers had the Victim, which wallet had been discarded, and thrown into the Bay.

From the foregoing, it was decided that no doubt the kidnaping of young Hart was by a group of amateurs.

As further letters were received by Mr. Hart, Sr., the numerals "1" and "2" were prepared by Agents, and placed by trusted store employees in the window of Hart's store, as described by the kidnapers, without letting anyone else in the store know what was going on. Mr. Hart was, of course, advised by Agents not to take any trips, and when no further definite word was received from the kidnapers, it not being at all apparent that the individuals who had been writing the letters, and telephoning to Mr. Hart, were the real kidnapers, owing to the fact they had failed to produce any definite evidence that they held the Victim, Agents prepared for Mr. Hart, Sr., a notice to the press to the effect that he was perfectly willing to negotiate with the kidnapers of his son, and stated that all Agents and officers had been withdrawn from his home, and that he would deal with the kidnapers personally, and there would be no interference at all from any law enforcement agency whatsoever.

From that point on Special Agent Ramsey did not answer any more telephone calls at the Hart home, but listened in on telephone conversations. He continued to secrete himself in the Hart home, however, and handle all mail. A notice was then given to the press by Agent in Charge Vetterli, to the effect that the Federal Government was respecting the wishes of Mr. Hart, and had withdrawn all Agents from the Hart house, and Mr. Hart was to be permitted to have a free hand in this case, and further indications were given to the press that we would not take any further action in this matter until the Victim had been returned, and that we were at a loss to know how to proceed further.

As a result, other letters were received by Mr. Hart, as outlined above. In addition, telephone calls were received from San Jose by Mr. Hart, and these telephone calls were checked immediately by the telephone company, and Special Agent Ramsey immediately contacting with Agents, who were stationed at the St. Claire Hotel, San Jose, and also with Sheriff Enig in San Jose, but on one prior occasion we missed Subject Thurmond, who had just placed a call to the Hart home.

Mr. Hart received several letters from various sections of the country, telling him they had his boy, and accordingly a further statement was drafted for Mr. Hart by Agents, who were driven into the Hart home secreted in the back of a sedan, whereby Mr. Hart gave a further notice to the press, indicating that he was ready and willing to pay the \$40,000 for his son's release, but would have to have some definite evidence indicating that the individuals who were contacting him in reality had his son, owing to the fact that he had received information from several sources that several parties were holding his son, and, of course, all of them could not be holding Brooks L. Hart. This information was also published freely in all the newspapers.

On the night of November 13-14, about 7:30 p.m., Mr. Hart received another telephone call from Subject Thurmond, giving him further instructions, and in harmony with previous instructions given Mr. Hart by Agents, he prolonged this conversation as long as he possibly could. As soon as this call was placed to Mr. Hart, Special Agent Ramsey and the chief operator, who were listening in, had this call checked immediately by the private phone which had been installed in the Hart residence. This information was immediately forthcoming to Special Agent Ramsey by the chief operator of the telephone company, and Agent Ramsey, using the private line which had been installed unbeknown to anyone else, immediately notified Agents at the St. Claire Hotel, and Sheriff Enig, to the effect that Mr. Hart was now conversing with an individual who claimed he had his son, and accordingly Sheriff Enig and Agents proceeded immediately to a garage from which the local call was being made by a pay station to the Hart residence, and there took into custody Subject Thurmond, who was still talking to Mr. Hart.

Subject Thurmond was immediately taken to the Sheriff's office, where he was whisked in rapidly to avoid the scrutiny of newspaper men, and there he was questioned, but claimed that he knew the Sheriff, the Sheriff knew his brother, who is a minister, and his sister, who is an organist in the church, and that he had not been in any trouble whatsoever, but finally did admit to Sheriff Enig in the presence of Agents, that he had made the telephone call to the Hart home that night, but that he, Thurmond, had been in love with a girl, and she had married another man, and he had seen her on the streets of San Jose, California, that afternoon; that it exercised him considerably to see her, and that he almost went to pieces; that he went to the theatre, and while in the theatre he heard two men talking about the Hart kidnaping case, and as a result, in a moment of foolishness, he had telephoned Mr. Hart, but knew nothing whatsoever regarding this case.

It was noticed, however, when he was brought into the Sheriff's office that Subject Thurmond turned exceedingly pale, and perspired continuously and very freely, and it was, of course, the impression of Agents that he was not telling the entire truth.

Accordingly, we telephoned the Hart home, and there had the daughter of Mr. Hart, Sr., who had received the first telephone call from the kidnapers at San Francisco, talk to Subject Thurmond. We also had Mr. Hart, Sr., Deputy Sheriff Hicks, and Special Agent Ramsey, who had also talked over the telephone, and had listened in on conversations, talk to Subject Thurmond, and all four were positive that the voice of Subject Thurmond was the same as that which they had heard over the telephone.

Accordingly, Subject Thurmond was grilled from approximately 8 p.m., to 2:30 a.m., the following morning by Agents, (the Sheriff, and his Deputy, and the Chief of Police being merely onlookers,) and step by step he was questioned concerning each telephone call and each letter that had been received, and he finally admitted each detail in connection with each transaction, until we finally got him back to the first telephone call which had been received at the Hart home from San Francisco, which telephone call was received by the Hart family before anyone knew the son had been even kidnaped, and when Subject Thurmond finally admitted that he had placed this telephone call from San Francisco to Mr. Hart, it was known then that he positively had some connection with the kidnaping, but he claimed he had been following instructions from an unknown man at Los Angeles.

He was then questioned most vigorously by Agents, and as a result, within the next hour, made a detailed complete confession outlining the complete kidnaping of the Victim by Thurmond and Holmes, and setting forth in detail the prearranged scheme to kidnap the Victim and murder him, which they had done.

The voluntary confession of Subject Thurmond was immediately reduced to writing about 3:30 the same morning before he had an opportunity to secure legal counsel, in which he outlined everything in detail. From him we secured the name of Subject Holmes, who had assisted Thurmond in this kidnaping. We immediately went to the garage where Subject Holmes kept his car, and which car was pointed out to us by Subject Thurmond, after which we searched the car very carefully, but failed to find anything of value. Then we dismantled the car, so if Subject Holmes came for same, he would be unable to drive off with it. We then took Subject Thurmond with us to a local hotel at San Jose, and from the manager ascertained that Subject Holmes was registered there at that time in room 91, and we then went to the third floor of this hotel, at which point Subject Thurmond knocked at Subject Holmes' door, and called for him by name, and when Holmes opened the door, Agents rushed in and took him into custody.

He denied having anything to do with this matter, and when brought to the Sheriff's office, positively refused to make any statement. However, Agents read to him the complete confession of Subject Thurmond, and Subject Holmes made one remark which indicated that he was mixed up in this kidnaping, because after we had read to him the confession of

Subject Thurmond, implicating Holmes, Holmes made a statement to the effect that he "did not know Thurmond would be a snitch". He refused to say anything further.

In view of the feeling at San Jose, California, Subjects were whisked out of jail by automobile to San Francisco, at which point Subject Holmes was interrogated further, and made a detailed confession, regarding his participation in this crime. Subject Thurmond was accompanied by Sheriff Baig, and this Agent, to San Francisco, California, and was driven to the San Mateo Bridge, where he endeavored to point out the approximate point where the Victim had been tossed into the San Francisco Bay. After several days of searching the body of Victim Brooke L. Hart was found, and the same night both Subjects were lynched.

It may be of interest to note that, of course, all angles with respect to the finding of the pocket book, the checking of the call at the Whitecomb Hotel, San Francisco, etc., received early and vigorous attention at all times, and were thoroughly investigated. A most minute description of the Victim was secured, even before the confession of Subject Thurmond. Every piece of clothing which he wore had been described in detail, together with jewelry, pocket book, color and size of shoes, in fact everything conceivable regarding his personal appearance was obtained. In addition a complete statement was secured from the physician of the Victim, and an interview was had by Agents with the dentist of Brooke L. Hart, as well as his chiropodist, and it is interesting to note that this information proved of value when the body of Victim Brooke Hart was located. The clothing of the Victim had been eaten away, but through the markings on the clothes, through the doctoring of the Victim's foot by a chiropodist, and through the statement of the Victim's dentist, who had recently done some dental work for the Victim, and who had a complete chart of the teeth in the Victim's mouth, it was definitely proved, without question, that the body found in the San Francisco Bay was in reality the body of Victim Brooke L. Hart.

The dentist probably proved the most conclusive of all in this respect. However, the clothing in the Hart's store had a secret mark, and this secret mark was found on some of the clothing on the body of the Victim when it was found in the San Francisco Bay.

As a matter of possible interest, Subjects did not have any prior criminal record. They were both born and raised at San Jose, California, being twenty-eight and twenty-nine years of age, respectively. Their reason for killing the Victim was because they believed he might recognize them.

Had Mr. Hart, Sr., kept his appointment with Subjects, with the \$40,000, from the facts developed, they would have, no doubt, killed him too.

Subjects both came from splendid families at San Jose, California, their families being well respected.

The proprietors of the stores at San Jose, California, from whom Holmes and Thurmond purchased the wire and cement blocks, with which they bound and weighted the Victim, were, of course, located and interviewed, and numerous other people were interviewed, and the information obtained showed a close association of Thurmond and Holmes at San Jose, California.

For your further information, as rapidly as letters were received by Mr. Hart, they were carefully wrapped in cellophane, and were photographed by a photographer at San Jose, and the originals were sent to Washington to be checked for fingerprints, and to be checked also with samples of printing which had been secured from Subjects Holmes and Thurmond at the time we secured their confessions.

Since that time the crime detection bureau of the Division has submitted a partial report, which is very enlightening.

In this case, by stationing an Agent in the Hart home, we had the complete cooperation of the entire family from the minute the Federal investigation took place, and which assisted materially in breaking this case.

This case is rather unique in the annals of kidnapping, in that the kidnapers were apprehended before the ransom was paid, or the Victim located.

At the time Subjects were lynched at San Jose, California, they were both in the custody of the State, and were, in no sense, Federal prisoners. The State had taken complete charge of the Subjects for prosecution, which provides capital punishment for kidnapping in California.

December 29, 1933.

RECORDED

JAN 8 1934

Mr. R. R. Vetterli,
Division of Investigation,
U. S. Department of Justice,
JAN 4 1934
318 Hayes Building,
San Francisco, California.

Dear Mr. Vetterli:

This will acknowledge receipt of your letters of
December 19, 1933, attaching copies of briefs entitled
respectively, "Thomas G. [redacted]", "John G. Malone, [redacted]",
L. [redacted] Elmer [redacted] Case at San Jose, California
and "Victor [redacted] Case at Kansas City". b7c

I have found each of these briefs very interesting
and informative and would appreciate it if you would furnish
the Division with two additional photostatic copies of each
brief to be filed in the Division's Library.

Sincerely yours,

Director

Division of Investigation
U. S. Department of Justice
318 Howe Building
San Francisco, California.

REV: IS
Refer file
#7-27.

December 18, 1933.

Director,
Division of Investigation,
U.S. Department of Justice,
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir:

Re: THOMAS H. THURMOND
JOHN M. HOLMES
BROOKE L. HART - Victim.
Kidnaping.

In reply to your letter dated December 12, 1933,
please be advised that I have dictated a brief on the Brooke
L. Hart kidnaping case, and also on the kidnaping case, b7c
at Kansas City.

These briefs have already been typed by the sten-
ographers at this office, and will be photostated within the next
forty-eight hours, and a copy will be forwarded to the Division
and to all offices.

Very truly yours,

R. E. Vetterli
R. E. VETTERLI,
Special Agent
in Charge.

RECORDED

DEC 28 1933

7-375-61
DEC 26 1933
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

312 News Building
San Francisco, California.

REVIS
Refer file
92-27.

December 29, 1935.



JAN-4 1936

Mr. George Fico,
United States Marshal,
Post Office Building,
San Francisco, California.

THOMAS H. THURMAN
JOHN MC BRIDE
PROSECUTOR - Victim,
Kidnaping.

I am attaching herewith a letter received from
Sheriff King of San Jose, California, returning the
body remains of John McBride and Thomas H. Thurman.

Very truly yours,

Special Agent in Charge.

Sac. Division,
Jan. 3, 1936.

92-375

DEC 29 1935
JAN 3 1936

1942-43
1943-44
1944-45

Special Agent in Charge,
Division of Investigation,
U.S. Department of Justice,
302 Post Office Building,
New Orleans, Louisiana.

250

1. THOMAS H. JEFFERSON
 2. JOHN H. HARRIS
 3. WILLIAM L. HARRIS
 4. WILLIAM L. HARRIS

Friend, New Orleans, Louisiana, has written the Director of the Federal Bureau, in the attached that he has no significant information on the above subject, and that he is having little or no vital interest in the study of Salinas Holman.

in the Turkish prison at Denizli. The Turkish government has been accused of human rights violations in the past.

100-443887-100

La Dilettante

XXXXXX
XXXXXX
XXXXXXFEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

1 Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

- ☒ Deletions were made pursuant to the exemptions indicated below with no segregable material available for release to you.

Section 552Section 552a☐ (b)(1)☐ (b)(7)(A)☐ (d)(5)☐ (b)(2)☐ (b)(7)(B)☐ (j)(2)☐ (b)(3)☒ (b)(7)(C)☐ (k)(1)☐ (b)(7)(D)☐ (k)(2)☐ (b)(7)(E)☐ (k)(3)☐ (b)(7)(F)☐ (k)(4)☐ (b)(4)☐ (b)(8)☐ (k)(5)☐ (b)(5)☐ (b)(9)☐ (k)(6)☐ (b)(6)☐ (k)(7)

- ☒ Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.
- ☐ Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.
- ☐ Documents originated with another Government agency(ies). These documents were referred to that agency(ies) for review and direct response to you.

Pages contain information furnished by another Government agency(ies). You will be advised by the FBI as to the releasability of this information following our consultation with the other agency(ies).

Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):

- ☐ For your information:

- ☒ The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:

7-375 - Not Recorded enclosure.

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XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
X DELETED PAGE(S) X
X NO DUPLICATION FEE X
X FOR THIS PAGE X
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.

FILE NO. 7-11

REPORT MADE AT NEW ORLEANS, LA.	DATE WHEN MADE 1-10-34	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 1-8-34	REPORT MADE BY M. A. TAYLOR
TITLE THOMAS H. THURMOND JOHN M. HOLMES BROCKE L. HART -- VICTIM			CHARACTER OF CASE KIDNAPPING

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

tells absurd story that much, three weeks prior to the date that Brooke Hart was abducted one Simmons and three other men attempted to hire him to drive the car in instant kidnapping.

New Orleans, La., is said by police officials to be of unsound mind and to have frequently contacted interested persons and officials in connection with prominent cases, offering valuable information. Descriptive data (kidnapping) form and photo of submitted to Division herewith.

JAN 15 1934 AM

HCC

REFERENCE: Letter of the San Francisco Division Office, dated January 6, 1934.

DETAILS: AT NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA

At the Parish Prison, New Orleans, La., Agent interviewed who is being held under a local statute pertaining to confidence games, etc., on charges crossing out of the phone call made by M. Holmes at San Jose, California, on January 8, 1934. He alleged to have requested or demanded transportation from Mr. Holmes in order to make this trip to California, under the pretense that he had important information pertaining to instant case.

When first approached appeared or pretended to be hesitant to divulge the information concerning instant case, but after some conversation stated that he would tell all he knew. He advised that he had refused to testify in the local police because he did not trust them. It may be stated here that nothing of the facts in instant case. He did not even keep of Thurmond's connection with the case. His story which is briefly stated hereafter, was told in a rambling and disconnected manner, and gives the beginning of the interview.

APPROVED AND FORWARDED <i>[Signature]</i>	7-375-12
COPIES OF THIS REPORT FURNISHED TO: 3-Division 3-San Francisco 3-New Orleans 3-San Francisco (1) San Francisco (1)	JAN 15 1934 AM JAN 16 1934

b7C

b7c

impressed agent as being mentally unbalanced.

stated that in June 1930 he had re-enlisted in the Army and had been stationed at Fort Benning, Georgia; that in the early part of 1931, about February 3rd, he had received a six months sentence in the Army Jail for stealing a pair of Army shoes, and on June 8, 1931 had completed serving his time and had received a dishonorable discharge. He advised that while thus incarcerated, he had had as a fellow prisoner, one Simmons, who was serving a sentence of three or four months for desertion. He stated that Simmons was released and dishonorably discharged shortly after himself. He related that during the entire time he and Simmons were in jail, once every week a large Cadillac car containing four men would appear and an envelope or letter would be delivered to Simmons; that each of these would contain \$40.00 or \$50.00. He stated that on one occasion Simmons dropped a letter and he picked it up and noted that it was signed, "Pretty Boy Floyd".

He stated also that towards the end of their term, he had struggled a phonograph machine over into the jail to Simmons, which car he had received from the four men, but that the authorities had gotten wise and he had managed to back out of them. He stated that he received \$50.00 for using this piece of work.

He further related that from June 1931 until some three weeks before instant kidnapping, he heard nothing from Simmons, and he declared that powerful connections in the underworld, although he understood that Simmons had been in and out of New Orleans, was during that entire time. That three weeks prior to the Acta Bank Bank robbery, Simmons and three of these four men who were mentioned appeared at the Pecos Dance Hall, 1017 Iberville Street, New Orleans, La., where he, he hung out, and inquired if he could make some big money. Simmons informed him that they wanted him to take for them, and that they had spotted Kinch's Bar, that his car had plenty of money, and the job was a cinch. He described Brooks as being 28 or 29 years of age, 6'11" in height, 175 lbs., and wearing a suit and 100 pounds. According to the description furnished him by Simmons, he stated that he informed the gangsters that he would not engage in a kidnapping, and that one of the four men wanted to kill him on the spot. Arming a fortune teller's revolver, but that Simmons demonstrated with this man, and the four were off in a brand new Cadillac. He stated that he has been in fear of his life because of the information he possessed, but that he had decided to turn the information over to Mr. Holmes, rather than to any other person.

He finally admitted that he had telephoned Mr. Holmes on January 27, 1934 from a pay station in a drug store which he stated is located at 4th and Plaquemine Avenue, New Orleans, La., but insisted that he had no thought of blackmail or extortion, and had requested money for transportation of other men.

He also advised that he had written the letter to Mr. Holmes immediately after he had been released from jail, and that the first of the letters written to him by Mr. Holmes, since he had been in jail.

Agent examined the two letters written by Mr. Holmes, dated January 3, 1934 and January 5, 1934 respectively. Both are signed "Mr. Holmes, 520 S. 11th Street, San Jose, Calif." The first acknowledges receipt of letter, and states that Mr. Holmes has received many crank letters; that he is sorry that [redacted] got into trouble over the telephone bill, and he will attend to that; requests that [redacted] clear his name; son's name, for which he will be ever grateful; and advised that lawyers will visit [redacted] soon and request [redacted] to tell all he knows in a sworn statement.

The second letter states that a wire has been sent to the District Attorney (does not state where) to get statements; and asks the following questions: "Can you give me names of anyone implicated there you in San Jose during the lynching? Can you give names of anyone that took part that night? What were you arrested for? Were you arrested in suspicion? In connection with this case or what? If only for telephone bill I will take care of that."

single report in that case, which contains a good description, and something of reputation is being transmitted to the San Francisco Office for the information. This report was received by Special Agent, F. E. Wood, New Orleans, La., dated February 6, 1935.

The following original record of [redacted] was obtained from an examination of Division letter to the New Orleans Police Department in response to a request for original record, and from the police records.

Agents interviewed Captain Harry Croson and William Bell, Detective Joseph Meek and Identification Officer A. M. O'Boyle, all of the New Orleans Police Department. These officials are well acquainted with and reported to him as "easy" on Big Boy. They advised that he had been in the New Orleans General Hospital, and that he was an inmate of the Federal Reformatory, and stated that in many prominent cases he had caused the arrest by writing to interested parties and authorities that he could lead

light on their particular case. They mentioned the Wrecked Kidnapping case and several local murder cases in which [redacted] had written that he could furnish reliable information. The officers stated that [redacted]

of Orleans, La., and advised that during the period that any of [redacted] criminal acts had been authorized.

In view of the fact that [redacted] appears continually involved in petty blackmail and extortion he may even participate in a major offense. Accordingly the Division is being furnished a descriptive data report form used in connection with kidnapers and extortionists, together with a photograph of [redacted]

b7C

REMOVED UPON COMPLETION TO OFFICE OF ORIGIN

Refer File
17-27.

SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF. DIVISION OFFICE
(Name and address of Contributor)

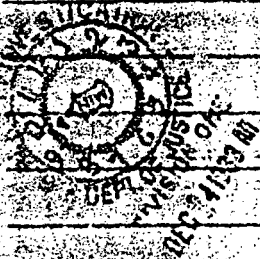
Mr. J. E. Hoover, Director,
United States Bureau of Investigation,
Washington, D. C.

Date 11/27/33.

Dear Sir:

Following are the dispositions of cases in which fingerprints have been
mailed to the United States Bureau of Investigation.

Bureau File Number	Print Number	Name and Alias	Disposition
7-27	San Francisco, Calif. Police Department No. 50390 50391	JOHN A. BOLLES	11/22/33 indicted by Federal Grand Jury, San Francisco, Calif. in seven counts, violation extortion angle of Kidnaping Act. 11/26/33, lynched by mob at San Jose, California, while in custody of the State.
7-27	San Francisco, Calif. Police Department No. 50390	THOMAS H. THER- MOND	11/22/33 indicted by Federal Grand Jury, San Francisco, Calif. in seven counts, violation extortion angle of Kidnaping Act. 11/26/33, lynched by mob at San Jose, California, while in custody of the State.



Very truly yours,

P. E. Waller
Special Agent in Charge
(Official Title)

7-375
RECEIVED
DEC 2 1933
Special Agent in Charge
(Official Title)

(For instructions see reverse side)

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

Division of Investigation

U. S. Department of Justice

Washington, D. C.

March 7, 1934.

RECEIVED

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. TOLSON.

There are attached copies of I. C. #7-375,
entitled "Thomas H. Thurmond; John M. Holmer - The
Kidnaping of Brooke L. Hart".

Certain portions of this I. C. relative to
the tracing of the telephone call at the time of
apprehension of one of the kidnapers have been eliminated.

It is suggested that fifty copies of this I. C.
should be mimeographed.

If this suggestion is approved it is requested
that all copies of this I. C. be returned to this office
so that the suggested number of mimeographed copies may
be made.

Respectfully,

A. H. D. Lester

A. H. D. Lester.

Incl. #372398.

50 min. copies Rec 3/15/34

WHL:DL

3/9/34
per [unclear]
copy [unclear]
[unclear] as made

RECORDED

INDEXED

MAR 23 1934

7-375-63
DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION
MAR 28 1934

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

Division of Investigation

U. S. Department of Justice

Washington, D. C.

February 28, 1934

CS:mr

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. TOLSON

There is attached hereto an interesting
write-up on the case of BROOKE L. HART - KIDNAPING.

Respectfully,

Clinton Stein
Clinton Stein.

Enclosure #691654.

7-375-63

28 1934 A.M.

DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

CS:DT:mr

L. O. 87-375

February 27, 1934

THOMAS E. GUNN;
JOHN H. BULLOCK;
THE KIDNAPING OF BROOKS L. HART

At six P. M. November 9, 1933 Brooks L. Hart, age 22 years, son of Alexander J. Hart, a prominent merchant at San Jose, California, left his father's store to secure his personal automobile which was in a parking lot approximately fifty yards from the Hart Department Store in San Jose, California. The father returned to his home about six P. M. and about 9:35 P. M. that same night received a telephone call from an unknown individual advising him that his son had been kidnapped and that he would have to pay \$40,000.00 for the safe return of his son. Hart immediately communicated the substance of this call to Chief of Police Black, San Jose, California who promptly got in touch with the Division office at San Francisco advising the Special Agent in Charge of the telephone call which Mr. Hart had received, stating that the call had been made through a telephone at the Pittman Hotel in San Francisco. Chief Black further stated that he desired the active cooperation of the Division of Investigation in this case.

At the time a Special Agent happened to be in San Jose, California on other business. The Special Agent in Charge of the San Francisco office of the Division of Investigation telephonically instructed the Special Agent who then happened to be in San Jose to contact the elder Mr. Hart at once and to advise him that the Division of Investigation would cooperate with him in this kidnapping to the fullest extent, bearing in mind that the first objective would be the safe return of his son Brooks Hart.

On November 10, 1933 the car of the missing Brooks Hart was found abandoned on a highway a short distance from San Jose. A careful examination of the same failed to disclose any evidence that might point to the identity of the kidnappers.

DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Brooks H. Hart

- 2 -

February 27, 1934

On November 11, 1933 Mr. Hart received a letter from the kidnapers which is quoted as follows:-

"Your son is O. K. and treated well. One more peep to police will be his finish. You have made 1 squeak. Another will be too bad. We will have \$10,000. You get 50% - 20's, 20's - 10's, 20's - 5's (marked). Put it in a matchbox (black). Be ready to take a weeks trip on a hour notice. Get the Stude. Motor have radio installed. When told to go you will take orders from K.F.O. You better do as told."

On the same date the victim's wallet was found on a pier at the San Francisco waterfront. No money was in the wallet but numerous identifying cards of victim were still intact.

On November 13, 1933 another letter was received by Mr. Hart from the kidnapers which is quoted as follows:-

"We presume you have gotten our letter from Sacramento. If you have money as demanded indicate same with a numeral at the Market and Santa Clara St. window of your store - viz. -1-. You will be advised when to start your trip as noted in former note. As long as contents of these notes are known to you alone Brooks is safe. By now you know Federal or anyone else are powerless to bring Brooks to you except through us. When A. J. Hart who will carry the money starts his trip he will carry the money in black matchbox (small) beside him in seat of Stude. Motor. If anyone follows this car or knows its errand Brooks will not be returned alive. Our next contact will tell you where to go and be prepared to start on the minute. Your every move is being observed. - Don't further contact."

In compliance with this letter the numeral 1 was placed in Mr. Hart's Department Store window with another card which bore in large black letters "I cannot drive." On the same night about 7:30 P. M. Mr. Hart received another telephone call from one of the kidnapers telephoning from a pay station in a garage at San Jose, California in which further instructions were given him as to how to contact the kidnapers.

DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Reuben L. Hart

- 3 -

February 27, 1934

The sheriff at San Jose, accompanied by Special Agents of the Division, took into custody Thomas E. Thurnmond whom they had suspected of being one of the kidnapers. Thurnmond made a complete confession of the kidnaping and implicated John M. Holmes as a partner in this kidnaping. That same night Holmes was taken into custody by the sheriff and Agents of the Division of Investigation and made a complete confession regarding the kidnaping of young Hart. The substance of their confessions is as follows:-

On November 9, 1933 Brooke Hart went to the parking lot to secure his Studebaker Roadster. As he left the lot to drive onto the main street he stopped momentarily whereupon Holmes opened the door of Hart's car and with a gun in his hand forced Hart to drive on and out through the main part of town to a small town of Milpitas, California, at which point according to a prearranged scheme Thurnmond was waiting along the roadside in a Chevrolet car belonging to Holmes. Then Holmes passed in a Studebaker Roadster with Hart, Thurnmond followed them to a point on the highway approximately one and one-half miles from Milpitas on a road which follows the foothills. At that point the Studebaker car was abandoned and young Hart was placed in the back seat of Holmes' Chevrolet car. Holmes and Thurnmond then drove toward the point known as the San Mateo Bridge in San Mateo, California, a distance of approximately 23 miles.

While Holmes was driving, Thurnmond covered young Hart with a revolver and upon reaching San Mateo Bridge young Hart was told to get out of the car and the gun was transferred from Thurnmond to Holmes who hit the victim over the head with the butt end of the gun, knocking the victim to the pavement of the bridge. Holmes then jumped on the victim and held him while Thurnmond bound his feet with wire. The wire was run through a heavy cement block weighing approximately 25 pounds. The upper part of the victim's arms was then bound close to his body after a similar concrete block had been attached so that it was pressed tightly against the victim's back.

The victim cried for help whereupon he was hit over the head with the butt of a revolver rendering him practically unconscious. Holmes took hold of the arms and shoulders of the victim, while Thurnmond gripped his feet, and together they heisted the victim up over the railing of the San Mateo Bridge and dropped him into the bay. After the victim struck

DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Brooks L. Hart

- 6 -

February 27, 1934

the actor he made several feeble attempts, whereupon Holmes crawled down over the trellis-work of the bridge and fired three shots at the spot in the water where the victim had sunk. Holmes and Thurnwald flew to the side of the victim late the boy removed his wallet in which there was about \$7.00, and after stripping the money drove along the waterfront and attempted to throw the wallet into the water. Holmes and Thurnwald returned to the dock and removed suggestions as previously set out with the victim's clothing for the purpose of securing \$40,000.00 as ransom. It might be noted at this point that it was a premeditated plan of Holmes and Thurnwald to kill young Hart and then attempt to secure the ransom money from the father under the pretense that young Hart was still alive. The premeditation evidenced in this plan was later supported by an investigation by Agents of the Division of Investigation. It was learned that Holmes had gone to the neighborhood and had engaged various blouses of women until he found two that weighed approximately 25 pounds each. Thurnwald was also found to have gone to a hardware store where he purchased 75 feet of electric line wire which was used to tie the victim before he was thrown into the bay. Intensive efforts were made at once by the sheriff and his deputies from San Jose to locate the body of young Hart in San Mateo Bay, unsuccessfully.

On November 22, 1933 two facts in this case were laid before the Federal Grand Jury of San Francisco, California with respect to the letters mailed by Holmes and Thurnwald to Dr. Alexander Hart, threatening bodily harm to his son and demanding money. On the same date the Federal Grand Jury returned a true bill as to both Holmes and Thurnwald which included three counts, the count charging conspiracy of both individuals to violate the extortion section of the recent kidnapping act, three counts charging the sending of threatening letters through the United States mail, three counts charging bodily harm to victim's son. In the meanwhile an intensive search was being made for the body of young Hart. On November 27, 1933 his body was found floating about a mile and a half from the San Mateo bridge by some duck hunters. Due to the disintegration of young Hart's clothes and the decomposition of his body, the shoes and the count blouses had become detached, thus permitting the body to float.

With the finding of the body the United States attorney at San Francisco advised that the proper place for the prosecution of Holmes and Thurnwald would be in the State Court inasmuch as they could be charged with

DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Brooks L. Hart

- 3 -

February 27, 1934

either the kidnapping or the murder of young Hart, either of which offense carries the death penalty in the State of California.

With the finding of Hart's body the people in the community of San Jose became highly aroused and numerous threatening statements to the effect that Holmes and Thurmond should be lynched were made by various people. However, the crowd did not appear threatening until about ten o'clock that night. At that time about three thousand people led by several young men descended on the jail and demanded that Holmes and Thurmond be turned over to them for lynching. The sheriff and his deputies laid down a gas barrage for several hours and were able to keep the crowd at a distance. After running out of gas bombs, however, the crowd battered down the jail door, seized Holmes and Thurmond and loaded them in a truck across from the Court House. It is to be noted that at the time this lynching occurred, both Holmes and Thurmond were completely in the custody of the State Officials inasmuch as all Federal protective action had been held in abeyance pending the outcome of the trial in the State Court.

Printed 3/27/34
105-10

CLASS

September 6, 1934.

Mr. T. E. Sick,
Division of Investigation,
U. S. Department of Justice,
370 Lexington Avenue, Room 1409,
New York, New York.

Dear Sir:

There are transmitted herewith copies of a letter
addressed to the Division by

San Jose, California, by
Hansen, California, and a copy of the Division's reply thereto,
concerning the cases of Charles A. Lindbergh, Jr., kidnapping,
and John W. Salas, kidnapping.

Please give the information such attention as you
deemed appropriate.

A copy of this letter is being forwarded to the San
Francisco office in order that that office may be informed
as to respect usually should any requests be made for it
for investigation.

Very truly yours,

WJ: SAC San Francisco
Enc. 4-14-34

RECORDED

INDEXED

7-173-64
SEP 11 1934
U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE
RECEIVED

RECORDED

7-375-65

LA 1345

1944-1945

bnc

[illegible]

1940

SECRET

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Washington, D. C.

San Jose, Calif.
May 1, 1935.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

I presume this letter will reach you without my using your proper title and address; I do not care to make inquiries in this sweet little political city of ours.

What I want to know is: Have you dropped the Hart kidnapping case as solved and completed? I don't mean any personal offense to you, but I suppose you realize the general public has little confidence in the ability or honesty of any cops, big or little. From listening to the radio, I rather there is quite an attempt to dethrone the gangster from the hearts of the people and make a hero of the copper who goes after said gangster. Smart. But I wonder if even the so-called C-men care anything about a case except for the glory and for stopping the howls of the dear people.

The fact is, a lot of people here doubt if there ever was a kidnapping, and they doubt if Thurmond had any more connection with the case than being a cop who tried to collect a few grand; a great many people doubt if Holmes had any connection with it.

RECORDED & INDEXED

I admit I haven't any proofs and I am not asking any shares. I tried to get the Liberty Magazine to make an investigation; I tried to get Upton Sinclair interested, but all I got was a couple of fellows from the Civil Liberties; they tried to get money out of me, and seems to be more interested in raffle lines than anything else, and I am plenty sick of that bunch, having been

I talked to newspapermen close to the case, in particular then with [redacted] said he didn't think the case had been solved; that someone would break later. [redacted] admitted that he had never gotten to talk to either Thurmond or Holmes before they were lynched. He said the so-called confessions were handed out by Louie Earl, the local political boss, and that he wouldn't believe that bird if he swore on a stack of Bibles big enough to convert all the heathen. [redacted] said he thought Chief Black had the hottest idea. Black said, when Hart first disappeared, that he didn't think he was kidnapped; that he was mixed up in some gambling debts and was trying to find a way out. It seems generally understood here that young Hart was hitting the primrose path long and fast, and that he owed a lot of money on gambling debts; notorious dice owner, is said to have threatened young Hart if he didn't pay up. Holmes' father told me he never got to see his son except for a short time the day his son was lynched, and that he could prove that his son could not have done what he says or Tariff said he did. [redacted]

I might say that it is believed that murder and literally he gotten away with in this community if you stand right politically. There is certainly much evidence to back up that idea. Many of us think that is what happened in the Hart case. If you and your men are completely satisfied, nothing further will be done.

I hope that is not the case.
Yours truly,

(Don't know)

7-375-56

RECORDED
INDEXED

MAILED

JUN 5, 1935

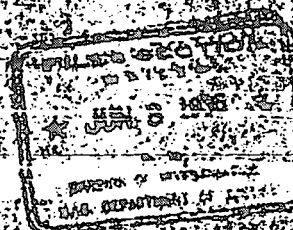
can stop, please

Dear Sir:

I beg to acknowledge receipt of your
communications of May 22, 1935, and have carefully
noted the contents.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover,
Director.



MEMORANDUM

Re: KIDNAPING AND MURDER OF BROOKE L. HART

Brooke L. Hart was kidnaped at San Jose, California, on November 9, 1933. Thomas H. Thurmond and John H. Holmes confessed to the kidnaping and subsequent murder of Brooke Hart and were lynched by a mob at San Jose, California, on November 26, 1933.

These individuals have no prior criminal record.

7-375

LATENT PRINT REPORT

Contributor: San Francisco Police Dept. Specimens: 2 - 1/2" x 1" postcard
 Case: Edgar West 3 envelopes
 Date Rec'd: 11/23/33 Latents Developed By: _____
 Time: _____ Photographed By: _____
 Assigned To: F Developed By: _____

Special Instructions: _____

By: _____

The latent print attached marked _____ has
 an _____ have been
 searched in the Single Fingerprint Section and no identification has
 been effected.

The latent print attached marked HCC DEF is
 are not
 identical with fingers any of the suspect attached,
 namely:

- | | |
|-----------------------------|-----------|
| (1) <u>John M. Kolmo</u> | (4) _____ |
| (2) <u>Harold J. Hummel</u> | (5) _____ |
| (3) _____ | (6) _____ |

Remarks:

Prints marked on the back of the
copies of the envelopes - Prints are very fragmentary

Date: 12/16/33

By: L. H. Feller

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

FROM : SAC, SAN FRANCISCO

SUBJECT: THOMAS H. THURMOND
JOHN WILLIAM HOLMES
BROOKE L. HART - Victim
KIDNAPPING

DATE: October 11, 1946

Described below are bulky exhibits at present maintained in the San Francisco office in connection with the above captioned case. As it appears these exhibits may not be of any further evidentiary value, permission is requested to destroy them:

Vol. I - Serial 1-B:

1. One business card of
2. One photograph of alias (front & profile view).
3. One wallet with name "Brooke L. Hart" (containing four snapshots, 1 driver's license in name BROOKE L. HART, 1 Western Union identification card, 1 Credit Courtesy Card of Associated Oil Co., 1 Associated Oil Courtesy card, 18 personal and business cards, 1 San Jose Free Public Library Card, 1 San Jose Chamber of Commerce Card, 1 California State Automobile Association card in name of Mr. A. J. HART, and 1 Associated Oil Credit Courtesy Card).
4. Investigative notes of Special Agent W. R. RANNEY.
5. Two envelopes of negatives of all photographic copies of ransom letters and envelopes.
6. Cardboard card bearing numeral "1".
7. Cardboard card bearing numeral "2" and words "I cannot drive".
8. Four original ransom notes, in cellophane, which apparently have no connection with the kidnaping, together with photographic copies of two of the ransom notes and envelopes.
9. One copy of confession of THOMAS HAROLD THURMOND.
10. One copy of confession of JOHN MAURICE HOLMES.
11. Short statement taken by Sheriff W. J. EMIG from THOMAS H. THURMOND, but which was not completed. Dated 11-15-33.
12. One postcard received from dated 11-6-33.
13. Typewritten note entitled "Report on trip to home of" signed
14. Typewritten note signed L.E.G., dated 11-13-33.
15. Typewritten note concerning who made a report to the Sheriff, dated 11-13-33.
16. Two Wanted Notes issued by J. E. BLACK, Chief of Police, San Jose, together with photographs of victim, BROOKE L. HART.

RECORDED
(continued next page)

7-375-68
15 OCT 15 1946

58 NOV 12 1946

BF #7-27
Director, FBI
10/11/46

b7c

17. Memorandum concerning automobile license and pertinent data, received over telephone from _____ of the National Auto Theft Bureau.
18. Copy of statement of _____, dated 11/17/33.
19. Copy of ransom letter and envelope received by Mr. HART from Oakland, Calif. (Apparently not from authentic kidnapers).
20. Copy of statement of _____ dated 11-18-33.
21. Copy of statement of _____ dated 11-18-33.
22. Signed statement of _____ dated 11-17-33 at San Jose, Calif.
23. Memorandum of Special Agent W. K. RAMSEY, JR., dated 11-18-33.
24. One ransom note with letter and envelope, apparently written by a demented person. Postmarked "Davenport, Neb., 11-17-33".
25. Notation by Dr. EDWARD A. COCHRAN concerning glasses worn by EMOCKE L. HART, Victim.
26. Chart of dental work performed by Dr. J. K. CONNOR for victim EMOCKE L. HART.
27. Letter to Dr. C. D. RANLIE from Dr. J. K. CONNOR, dated 11-27-33, regarding examination of dental work in body of victim EMOCKE L. HART.
28. Investigative notes of Special Agent PHILLIPICH.
29. Question and answer statement taken from THOMAS E. THURMOND, dated 11-17-33.

CAM:afh
7-27

MOORE L. HART - Victim
Kidnaping
San Francisco "Call", dated 11/16/35.

NEAR TEST ATION AVERED ROW OF CLEAN FUR HART KIDNAP

NAB 2 AS HART KIDNAPERS

San Francisco, Nov. 16 (AP) — Two men in their thirties, who were arrested today, are charged with the kidnaping of Moore L. Hart, a prominent San Francisco businessman, in 1935. The two men, who were arrested today, are charged with the kidnaping of Hart, who was last seen in 1935. The two men, who were arrested today, are charged with the kidnaping of Hart, who was last seen in 1935. The two men, who were arrested today, are charged with the kidnaping of Hart, who was last seen in 1935.

NOT RECORDED

7-375-A

S. F. CLEANUP FOR HART KIDNAP

Ransom Victim Released

The car dashed off.
Kearney declared he could make no further statement, because there was "too much at stake. This is a life or death matter."

The suspects, whose names were withheld, were captured during a wild night of thrills and mysterious police dashes to unnamed destinations in Santa Clara Valley.

RANSOM NOTES REVEALED

Kearney, the frantic father, Alex Hart, had admitted receiving numerous communications from the kidnapers holding his son for \$50,000 ransom. One of the messages directed him to drive alone, taking the ransom money with him, to a designated spot.

A steady grill of the men captured by Sheriff Emig and Police Chief John N. Black of San Jose was said to have them "crickling fast" and virtually reach to reveal where young Hart, a hold captive.

Emig said the sitting youth was guarded by the leader of the gang and another kidnaper who slipped out of a police trap early this morning when Department of Justice operatives and deputy sheriffs first picked up the trail.

CAUGHT PHONING FOR RANSOM

The first of the pair was captured at a garage at 222 Alameda street, San Jose. He was caught redhanded, Emig said, while phoning a ransom demand to the parents of young

Continued on Page Nine, Col. Four

to shoot to the sheriff's private office.

The boys father told that police had two suspects in custody after

"I only want my boy back." But I can't comply with ransom demands until I have definite proof I am negotiating with the right parties."

SACRAMENTO S.E. 2712 - November 21 1935

7m

Mr. Nathan	
Mr. C. C.	
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Glavin	
Mr. Ladd	
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tracy	
Mr. Carson	
Mr. Egan	
Mr. Gurnea	
Mr. Hendon	
Mr. Jones	
Mr. Quinn	
Mr. Nease	
Mr. Gandy	

OFFICERS CONTINUE HART BODY SEARCH

Build Dummy to Use in Test-
ing Tides Where Youth Was
Allegedly Tossed.

By the Associated Press.
SAN FRANCISCO, November 21.—
Baffled in the prolonged search for the
body of Brooke L. Hart, San Jose kid-
naping victim, officers of four counties
today joined forces for a new effort.
By means of a dummy, built to cor-
respond to Hart's measurements, the
searchers hope to check the tides and
currents of South San Francisco Bay
into which the kidnapers allegedly
threw the 23-year-old store executive.
Sheriff William Emig of Santa Clara
County said the dummy will be
weighted with two 20-pound cement
blocks, corresponding with those the
kidnapers said they used to stuff Hart.
Emig said Thomas H. Thurmond,
accused with John M. Holmes of the
kidnaping and slaying, had examined
a pillow slip found near the death
scene and declared it was smaller than
the one pulled over Hart's head.
At the same time Sheriff Emig said
Thurmond, who protested when arrested
that the officers must be mistaken
because he was "a good church mem-
ber," had confessed to two robberies in
San Jose.

W H D S
B L

NOT RECORDED

7-375-A

(Pictures on Back Page)

The confessed kidnapers and killers are Thomas H. Thurman, 23, and Jack Holmes, 27.

Revised in Three Months

With the same speed that officers moved in seizing the suspects, Knickerbocker's attorney, reinforced by federal agents, took Thurmond and Holmes to San Francisco for safe keeping. After the confusion was made known, travelers began to turn about the greenhouse here and officers said people feeling against the two was rampant.

Tied, Thrown from Bridge

Dropping for the body was heard at the point mentioned even before the confession was announced.

Men familiar with the waters said that efforts probably would be futile unless the body had been sufficiently weighted to prevent its being carried by the water reaches of the river and

— 1940 —

"Along" and "Pilot" - very long in
"and"

The elder Hart ~~started~~ to speak but fainted.

Mrs. Hart, who was operated on
and many weeks ago was reported
to a precarious condition at her home
and under the care of physicians.
The younger brother and sister of
the slain youth were distressed by
the news.

Story Attributed to Thurnwald.

The confession of Thompson as made
public by Mr. O'Neil said:

"I have known Jack Edwards approximately one year. Approximately five or six weeks ago he approached me with a plan to kidnap Brooks and hold him for ransom.

"We discussed this matter on one or two occasions and Thursday, Nov. 9, shortly before 6 o'clock. Holmes and I saw Brooke Hart come to a parking lot where he parked his roadster. Holmes and I had previously planned just how we would kidnap him.

* Jack Holmes was to get in Harry's car as it approached Market street and I was to follow in another car which belonged to Jack Holmes.

"On the 9th of November, Brockton Hart obtained his raccoon from the post."

and drove out the driveway toward Market street. Jack Hansen met the car on the curb and opened the car door with one hand and kept the other hand in his pocket as though he had a gun. He forced Hart to get away with him.

"According to directions I followed the car in Holmes' track, which had been parked on Market street.

As soon as I saw him pass me in Brooke Hart's car I proceeded to follow him and waited for him at the Hoagster garage.

Shortly thereafter Jack Hanson and Hart drove by in the latter's red car and I followed the car to a point on the Evans road about seven miles from San Jose.

"When Jack Hoffman stopped the car they both got out and Hoffman told Hart to get in the back of the car. I was driving. We then drove a short distance ahead, when Hoffman, who was now driving, turned the car around and headed back to Michigan with Hart in the back seat.

was sitting at the right of Alvarado, who was driving the car. We then turned north and drove through Leticia, to Alvarado, then directly to the San Mateo before.

Chicago Tribune

NOT RECORDED

1-275-A 11-17-32

Is Found On Road.

Shortly After Telephone Warning To Parents.

Hamm Identifies One Of Touhy's Gang

As Thug Who Took Him On Abduction Ride.

Trial Opens In St. Paul— Man And Wife Seized— Texan Is Questioned As To Urschel Money.

San Jose, Calif., November 10—(AP)—Ransom of \$40,000 is demanded of Alexander J. Hart, wealthy merchant, for the return of his twenty-two-year-old son, Brooke Hart, the object of a statewide hunt as a kidnapping victim.

An anonymous telephone caller said the money must be paid "if you want to see your boy alive again," but gave no instructions as to the manner of payment.

One of the most formidable kidnapping hunting organizations ever called into action in Northern California passed close in the case tonight.

Department of Justice agents, police of San Francisco and San Jose and peace officers of the entire bay district united in the hunt a few hours after the disappearance of young Hart after he left the department store in which he recently had been made a partner with his father.

ABDUCTION IS BELIEVED.

San Jose police arrested Tony Barcelona, 23, asserted underworld character, for questioning but released him after several hours of apparently fruitless examination.

San Francisco police said they had no clues, but Charles Dullen, Captain of detectives, said he had "been informed" that the abductors would get in touch with the Hart family later and that his force was awaiting such a development.

Search of the Calaveras Dam area, 25 miles northeast of here, was made in the hope of picking up the trail of the young merchant. His motor car, its lights still burning, was found early today on a road leading to that district, in which many deserted cottages are located.

FATHER IS SILENT.

The elder Hart remained silent as to the ransom demand and what his plans would be. He received a telephone call from San Francisco four hours after young Hart's disappearance, demanding the ransom.

not were seized in their car. She was flung into the action, he said, and Giesler, who broke down, was pursued down the road and captured again.

St. Paul, Minn., November 10—(AP)—William Hamm Jr., in a tense Federal courtroom, today testified that Eddie McFadden, a Chicago gangster, resembled one of the men who forced him into an automobile when he was kidnaped here last June 13.

The millionaire St. Paul brewer stepped out of the witness box and, with a dramatic gesture, walked over to where McFadden was sitting with three co-defendants and pointed a finger to within a few inches of McFadden's chest.

"This man," Hamm said, "resembled the other man on my right."

The "man on the right" to whom Hamm referred was one of two men who picked him up near his brewery offices, impersonated him to enter a sedan and took him to some place in Wisconsin, believed near Janesville and Beloit.

McFadden raised his bald head and looked the millionaire squarely in the eye.

Hamm told the story of his abduction and identified three notes bearing his signature as those he signed at the demand of the abductors.

Courtroom An Arsenal.

George M. Sullivan, United States District Attorney, beginning his opening statement to the jury under the watchful gaze of more than 30 guards armed with pistols and tear gas guns, named McFadden, Roger Touhy, gang leader, and Willie Sharkey as three men whom the prosecution would show were implicated directly in the \$100,000 abduction. Gustav Schaefer is on trial also.

"The evidence will show that Roger Touhy was in the Theodor drug store on the outskirts of the city June 13, and placed a note in one of the booths in which people eat ice cream," he said, "and the evidence also will show that later Roger Touhy telephoned the drug store representing himself as W. W. Dunn, sales manager of the Theodor Hamm Brewing Co., and told the proprietor that he dropped a note in one of the booths. He asked the proprietor to take it out to his home, which the proprietor did."

"Evidence also will be introduced to show that sometime on Saturday night, June 15, \$100,000 was placed in a leather brief case, tied with a string and handed to Mr. Dunn. He drove up Highway No. 1 and, acting under instructions, pushed the money out of the car onto the highway."

Sullivan named Sharkey, Ashtabula driver of the kidnaper's automobile.

Five farmers, two housewives and five other men were chosen jurors. Two alternates were picked.

"Just A Crazy Idea."

Dallas, Texas, November 10—(AP)—Officers said today J. A. Morgan told them just a "crazy idea" impelled him to send letters to Charles F. Urschel telling him he had \$25,000 of the \$200,000 ransom paid for Urschel's release buried on his Wise County farm.

"I needed money because the mortgage on my farm was overdue and I am trying to put my two boys through college," police quoted Morgan as saying.

E. J. Dowd, Department of Justice Agent, said Morgan had made a complete statement.

Morgan was taken into custody yesterday at his farm, 12 miles northeast of Decatur, by Frank J. Blake, Department of Justice Agent, and Detective L. J. ...

Division
file

The call of the...
...the bridge at which...
...back of the car...
...Hart and his...
...with a brick...
...Hart...
...company...
...started on...
...trip.

When Holmes first struck Hart over the head with the brick he believed "Help" Holmes hit him on the head again with the brick and struck Hart unconscious.

Then I took some things from the car which I had purchased during the afternoon at a hardware store in Santa Clara for 15 cents and bowed the crime of Brooks Hart around his body up close to his shoulders.

Holmes then told me to take hold of him. He took a hold of the upper part of Hart's body and I took a hold of him from the lower down, and together we lifted him on the railings of the San Mateo bridge and tossed him into the bay. I recall as we lifted him onto the bridge he struggled mightily.

Youth Robbed During Ride.

We then turned around and drove back to San Jose. While we were riding in the car with Hart before we reached the bridge we had asked him to turn over his pocketbook and money, which he did. To the best of my recollection the wallet contained a \$5 bill and \$3.50 in silver. We divided the money and I kept the wallet. After I returned to San Jose, by agreement I went back to San Francisco to my father's automobile, and it was our understanding that I was to go from San Francisco to Oakland and en route throw the wallet into the bay. I was to phone Hart from Fresno asking for \$40,000.

"Busy Signal" Dials Call.

I tried to put through this call from a place on Market street, but the line was busy. I first tried to place the call about 8:30, and then went to the Winton hotel and placed another long distance call to the Hart residence in San Jose about 10:30 p.m. I was successful in completing that call. Some woman answered the telephone, and I told her that her brother was being held for \$40,000 ransom and if the family needed the money they would never see Brooks Hart again.

Instead of taking the ferry from San Francisco to Oakland to throw away the wallet of Brooks Hart I walked down the waterfront for two or three blocks and tossed the wallet into the bay.

I then returned to my father's home in San Jose, arriving shortly after midnight. On Nov. 18 at about 11 p.m. I left in my father's car for Sacramento. Jack Holmes was with me with a message for Mr. Hart.

Reports "San Jo O. K."

This message was to the effect that their son was "O. K." but if the police were notified any more it would be too bad. And on this card we also specified the number of bills to be paid: the \$40,000 ransom, and not to return the money.

I had obtained an envelope at Fresno and when I got to Fresno on Nov. 19, I addressed the envelope to Mr. Hart and later about 11 p.m. I mailed it at Fresno.

...but I did see him the following morning and told him I had mailed the card to Mr. Hart. The card was printed by Holmes.

Wrote Note to Father.

I was watching Holmes when he wrote the letter and read it. The letter specified that Mr. Hart place numerical one in the window of his store if he was willing to negotiate.

I left San Jose about 11 in the morning with this letter and drove to San Francisco and mailed the letter approximately half an hour after I arrived. I then came back home.

I did not see Holmes until the following day. He and I both went by Hart's store Tuesday and both saw the numerical one in the window, and that night in accordance with our agreement called Charles O'Brien Jr., personal friend of Brooks Hart's, and demanded further action.

Orders for Ransom Paying.

The call was placed by Holmes from a pay station in a building in which Mr. Hart was to take a watch with the \$4,000 and place it on the seat beside him and drive his car's headlights toward Los Angeles. After this call had been completed Holmes and I drove to Morgan hill and back, but we could not see Mr. Hart drive out in the car, and so about 8:45 I telephoned Mr. Hart from a pay station at a parking lot in San Jose. I asked Mr. Hart why he had not kept his previous appointment, and he told me he wanted further proof that we were holding his son. I then told Mr. Hart he had better hurry and leave and then hang up.

Morgan Hill Before Arrest.

Thompson told me it was planned to receive the ransom and detailed negotiations with the time of his arrest, saying:

We then went to Babcock Brothers garage on South Market and I phoned from a pay phone to the rear of the garage. I told Hart I had seen the number in the window and that Mr. Hart or some member of his family should drive the car (with the ransom) and go at once. I told Hart I wanted his answer definitely "yes or no."

I told Mr. Hart that the driver of the car would be paid where he could pick up Brooks Hart as soon as he delivered the money. I told Mr. Hart I was one of the boys who wrote him a letter on Nov. 15. I also told Mr. Hart that I had received my orders from headquarters and that was all I could do. About the time I finished this call I was taken into custody by Sheriff Ennis.

NOT RECORDED
7-375-A

Tell How Kidnaped Youth Battled for Life in Water

(Pictures on back page.)

San Francisco, Cal., Nov. 17.—(AP)—A police report of agonized cries coming from the dark waters about San Mateo bridge the night of Nov. 9 gave police investigation today to the disappearance of Thomas H. Thurmond and John Holmes that they kidnaped, beat and bound Brooks Hart, 22, and threw him into the bay there.

The report, taken from the police records of Hayward, near the eastern end of the span, was sent today to Chief of Police J. M. Black of San Jose, scene of the abduction, and was amplified in a letter from the wife of one of two men who said they heard the cries.

This story came to officers while four boats were dragging the waters about the bridge in search of the body and while Thurmond and Holmes were being held in San Francisco as a precaution against the snatching of a crowd in San Jose.

Second Man Confesses

In the letter city Sheriff William J. Long's office said Holmes had made a signed confession similar to that of Thurmond made public yesterday. Both agreed that they abducted Hart, son of a wealthy San Jose merchant, robbed, slugged and bound him and then threw him off the bridge.

Holmes' alleged confession stated that Thurmond had fired several shots at Hart after the youth had been thrown into the bay.

The Hayward police report and the letter show Victor Ridley and Al Coley, partners in a wood business, heard the cries about an hour and a half after young Hart disappeared from San Jose.

Heard Cries for Help

Ridley and Coley said they saw an automobile move westward on the span, stop and turn back. They said they heard the cry "Help, help" as the automobile stopped, and some one was heard to cry, "Leave me alone. Leave me alone." After the automobile turned back, the wood hunters said they heard the call for help repeated.

The car ran to the bridge and back

the voice say, "I can't hold on much longer." They searched under the bridge, but found nothing.

Another bit of evidence was the discovery of a piece of fabric similar to that of the shirt which young Hart was wearing. To it hung what officers said appeared to be a bit of flesh.

Hunt Woman in Case

San Jose, Cal., Nov. 17.—(Special).—While the waters of San Francisco's bay held fast tonight to the body of Brooks L. Hart, 22, authorities moved speedily in perfecting an air tight case against his confessed kidnapers and killers, John Holmes and Thomas H. Thurmond. Bit by bit they got together the loose ends of the many clues which served to confuse investigators for almost a week and added the kidnapers to escaping earlier detection.

Motive for the crime apparently has been established in the desecrating in-
spection of women over at least one of the prisoners and possibly both. Ransom of \$50,000 was demanded, according to the confession of Thurmond to enable Holmes at least, to satisfy the demand of a woman for money.

In this connection, authorities disclosed information indicating a woman aided in the preparation of one of the ransom notes sent to Alexander J. Hart, wealthy San Jose merchant and father of the slain youth. The woman's name is known, Sheriff William J. Long announced, and she is sought for questioning.

It was also learned today that Charles O'Brien Jr., friend of the slain youth and proprietor of a restaurant, had been selected by the kidnapers as the intermediary in their negotiations for ransom.

O'Brien, it was announced, identified Thurmond as the man who leaped on the running board of his automobile at dusk last Tuesday, put his hand on the door handle, looked to quickly at O'Brien and then dropped off and disappeared. Later O'Brien received a telephone call, allegedly from Thurmond. The police instructed him to have the senior Hart drive back on the coast highway the following morning with the \$50,000.

Chicago Tribune

11-12-33

NOT RECORDED

7-375-A

CLUE TO BODY OF SLAIN HEIR FOUND IN BAY

Searchers Recover Cement
Block and Wire; Stains
Nearby; Woman Questioned

(Pictures on Back Page.)

SAN FRANCISCO, Nov. 17.—Hopes for the recovery of the body of Brooke L. Hart, alleged victim of kidnaping slayers, were revived tonight as a block of cement tied with wire was pulled from San Francisco Bay.

The block was believed by searchers to be one which Thomas H. Thurmond and John Holmes, held in San Francisco, were quoted by authorities as saying they fastened to the young San Jose storekeeper's leg before hurling him into the bay from the San Mateo bridge.

STAINS FOUND ON RAIL.
At the same time bloodstains were found on the rail of the bridge opposite to where the concrete block was found.

These developments followed by nearly twenty-four hours the bringing to the surface by dredging of a "clue" of cloth believed to be from Hart's shirt.

Searchers predicted the body of the youth, the nephew son of Alvin Karpis, would be recovered soon.

WOMAN IN CUSTODY

It also was learned that a woman, taken into custody in San Jose, was brought to San Francisco by officers for questioning. Sheriff William E. Bly said he believed the woman, whose name was withheld, could give information about the activities of Holmes who recently escaped from the city.

Early reports held a woman had recently given a quarrel between Holmes and his wife, leading to their separation, and that she had taken the car.

The sheriff said the Campbell youth's condition was improved and he took the driver of the gray-colored man's motor car. The car had been also for questioning.

R. E. Vetter, in charge of the search, said he was confident the body would be recovered.

CLOTH CLUE IN HART CASE

Continued From First Page.

San Francisco division of the Department of Justice Bureau of Investigation, made public the three ransom notes sent the elder Hart.

"Your son is OK and treated well," said one, mailed November 12. "One more drop will be his death."

The second, mailed November 13 from San Francisco, gave directions for the payment of the ransom.

The third, November 15, demanded immediate payment and said: "Killing him is the easy way, with little risk for us."

San Jose officers received word from police at Hayward, near the eastern end of the bridge, substantiating portions of the confessions relating to Thurmond and Holmes allegedly knowing young Hart and having bound his arms and threw him into the water before demanding ransom from the father as ransom.

The Hayward report showed Victor Ridley and Al Coley, partners in a firewood business, heard cries of "Help! Help!" at the bridge about 7:30 p. m. November 12, not long after young Hart disappeared. They searched the bridge without success.

Ridley and Coley said they were gathering driftwood along the water's edge near the bridge, saw an automobile move westward on the span, stop and turn back. They said they heard someone say "Leave me alone—leave me alone."

After the automobile turned back, the wood hunters heard the car for help repeated. They shouted that they were coming and again heard someone say "Help! Help!"

They reached the bridge and heard the voice say "I can't hold on much longer." They said they saw, apparently some body under the bridge about the young. They searched the spot and found nothing, but reported the incident to the Hayward police.

GUARDED MAINLY HOME

This story came to officers while their boats were dragging the waters about the bridge in search of the body and while Thurmond and Holmes, charged with kidnaping, were being held in San Francisco.

There is a possibility another man being crowded in San Jose.

In the latter city Sheriff Enloe's office said that in Holmer's confession he stated that Thurmond had fired several shots at Hart after the youth had been thrown into the bay.

The statement said that Holmes gave Thurmond his gun to cover Hart after he had struck the boy over the head with a brick. They threw the body into the bay, the confession said, and then Thurmond contacted the receiver in the general direction of where Hart's body struck the water.

SWIFT TRIAL PROMISED

Swift punishment will be meted out to the confessed slayers, District Attorney Fred Thomas announced. Thomas said the two men will be brought to trial here in the Superior Court of Santa Clara County under the new California kidnaping law.

Thurmond and Holmes can be tried on charges of either kidnaping or murder even if Hart's body is not found, it was stated by Thomas.

In proceeding with the prosecution, Thomas said he would ask the county grand jury to return an indictment against the two men Monday on a kidnaping charge.

FACE DEATH PENALTY

Under California law, Thomas pointed out, the death penalty can be demanded on either a kidnaping or murder charge even if "corpus delicti" is not established.

"We have chosen to go ahead with the kidnaping charge," Thomas said. "It would be more difficult to proceed on the murder charge, as the prosecution would be handicapped to a certain extent. But we are positive we can convict on the kidnaping charge."

EXPRESS REFORMATION

"We are going ahead on the assumption that the confessions of the prisoners will be repudiated. They generally are."

"We intend to prove that Thurmond wrote the notes and telephoned to the Hart home. We shall prove that he had no other means of knowing that Hart was kidnapped at the time he first telephoned."

Officials also said that they had the knowledge of the whereabouts of Hart. That should establish the fact he had been kidnapped.

Chicago Herald & Examiner

NO. 375-A 11-18-33

WASHINGTON D.C. STAR, November 24, 1933.

\$500 REWARD POSTED FOR BODY OF HART

San Francisco Bay Falls to Yield
Remains of Abducted Son
of Rich Merchant.

By the Associated Press.

SAN JOSE, November 24.—A search of San Francisco Bay for the body of Brooks L. Hart was spurred by a \$500 reward offered today while his two alleged kidnappers and slavers awaited trial in the county jail here.

Alex J. Hart, San Jose merchant and father of the 22-year-old kidnapping victim, offered the reward after more than a week of efforts to recover the body had failed.

Thomas H. Thurmond and John M. Holmes, who State and Federal authorities assert abducted Hart and throwing him from the San Mateo Bridge in a \$25,000 ransom plot, were closely guarded in their jail cells. Sheriff William J. Rutz, however, said he believed no lynching would be made.

NOT RECORDED

9 375A

W. H. D. 8/13

WASHINGTON D.C. TIMES - NOVEMBER 24, 1933.

HART'S SLAYERS THREATENED

SAN JOSE, Cal., Nov. 24 (N.S.)
Renewed threats of lynching the
kidnapers and slayers of Brooks
Hart, 22-year-old son of a wealthy
department store owner, rumbled
through San Jose today.

Reports were flashed to the chief
of police and Sheriff William J.
Emig that "a vigilante committee
of 100 responsible business men"
was being formed.

Several salesmen corroborated
the reports and told newspaper
men that they had overheard the
business men discussing final plans
for the organization of the "vig-
ilante of 100."

Sheriff Emig immediately posted
additional deputy sheriffs
at the ancient county jail.

RECEIVED
NOV 27 1933 PM 7:35

NOT RECORDED

7-375-A

60-6-15-11

A PILLOW SLIP WITH STAIN ON IT CLEW TO HART MURDER

San Francisco, Cal., Nov. 28.—(AP)—Search of lower San Francisco bay for the body of Brooks Hart, Alameda victim, was intensified today by the finding of a pillow slip in the waters two miles southwest of the San Mateo bridge, from which two men held in the case allegedly confessed they threw the hapless youth the night of Nov. 2.

In statements to police Thomas H. Thompson and John H. Haines said they used a pillow slip as a boat over the victim's head. The fabric, found half submerged in the water by Corporal J. L. McDermott and County Engineer George H. Haines, had a brown egg-shaped stain upon it and a hole such as a bullet would make.

The discovery came upon the finding of a hot tire, one which young Hart supposedly purchased, that was found on the muddy bay shore about 4,000 feet north of the bridge yesterday. It bore the brand of a hot tire sold by the Hart Department store in San Jose. Alex J. Hart, head of the San Jose store and father of the abducted youth, was positively positive in identity. The older Hart said his sons and many help of that firm.

On the theory that sometime time ago have claimed to allow the body to the officers of Santa Clara, San Mateo, Alameda, and San Francisco counties called a meeting in Oakland city the afternoon to coordinate the searching.

Chicago Tribune

11-21-35

7-375-A

1/21/36

WASHINGTON D.C. NEWS, November 23, 1933.

Body Seen Floating May Be Young Hart's

By United Press
SAN FRANCISCO—A body was seen floating in San Francisco Bay early today by workmen on the bay bridge.

Police boats started immediate search to determine whether it was the body of Brooke La Hart, missing kidnap victim.

Mr. Nathan
Mr. Tolson
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Foxworth
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Jones
Mr. Quinn
Mr. Nease
Mr. Lester
Mr. Gandy

NOV 27 1933

NOT RECORDED

WASHINGTON D.C. NEWS, NOVEMBER 24, 1935

HART KIDNAPER FAILS IN ESCAPE

SAN FRANCISCO, Nov. 23 (U.S.)—A heavy guard surrounded the courthouse and jail in San Jose today, and double sentries were at every entrance.

These precautions to protect J. M. Holmes and Thomas H. Thurmond, confessed kidnap killers of Brooke L. Hart, followed a desperate attempt by Holmes to escape from the officers who had the prisoners in charge while en route from the San Francisco city jail to San Jose, late last night.

Thronges that passed the jail were curious but not disorderly. As the hunt for Hart's body entered the seventh day a fleet of small boats were searching the bay waters near Yerba Island on a report that a man's body had been seen floating there.

Meanwhile details of Holmes' efforts to escape en route to San Jose by motor car late last night were disclosed.

Complaining of a bad cough, Holmes asked that the window of the car be closed so that he would be out of the draft. An officer changed seats with him to make him more comfortable. Suddenly Holmes made a wild plunge for the door, seeking to wrench the handle of the door open, but the handcuffs bit into his flesh and, screaming with pain, he sank back into his seat.

Mr. Nathan
Mr. Tolson
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Jones
Mr. Quinn
Mr. Nease
Mr. Lester

NOT RECORDED

7-315-A

WAD

BELIEVED FOUR HART BODY

S. F. Mob Hurls Lynch Threat; Sinking Youth Shot, Says Confession

Death Weight Drag-
ged from Water
Near Scene
of Murder.

By ROYCE BRIER

With the recovery of the
body of Brooks Hart believed
near after grappling hooks had
hauled up two of the cement
blocks cast off the San Mateo
bridge with the kidnap victim,
cries of "Lynch him! Lynch
him!" echoed through Market
street last night as a mob men-

JOHN F. HOLMES
HAROLD THURMOND
BROOKS L. HART - Victim.
Kidnaping.

"CHRONICLES", dated Nov. 18, 1933.

Mr. Nathan
Mr. Tolson
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Jones
Mr. Quinn
Mr. Nease
Mr. Lester
Mr. Quinn

NIGHT

ENDING of the

TEBRATE

N TONIGHT

Recovery of Hart Body Believed Near, Weights

(Continued From Page 1)

returned to the City Prison after the slayers had been killed for hours during the afternoon.

Holmes had been removed some time before without his identity being realized by a waiting crowd.

A crowd estimated at from 150 to 200 persons had gathered on the walk when Thurmond, after supplementing his signed confession with further sordid details of the killing, was brought handcuffed to the sidewalk.

Meanwhile, authorities at San Jose questioned a woman friend of Holmes regarding her possible knowledge of Holmes' recent movements, and released her with the intimation she had been able to reveal nothing of value.

Search was launched for another woman, said to be a sweetheart of Holmes, on whom it was intimated, he had depended for an alibi in the event of suspicion pointing to him as involved in the Hart case. The name of this woman was not revealed.

The woman questioned and released was Mrs. Gertrude Eastensen. She and her husband were described by Undersecretary Earl Hamilton as friends of the Holmes family. Other acquaintances of the two slayers will also be questioned, it was said.

Belief that the finding of Hart's body was near was expressed after grappling iron had recovered the block of cement.

In his all afternoon grilling by Department of Justice agents and police and Deputy Sheriff yesterday Thurmond said one block of cement was wired across Hart's chest and another across his back. A third block was discarded into the bay.

Under questioning by Department of Justice agents yesterday Thurmond said Holmes strangled Hart with a revolver, fired one shot into the youth's body as he struggled in the water and then handed the gun to Thurmond, who climbed down the bridge and fired three more shots in the direction of a "gurgling sound."

An apparent attempt Tuesday to stop the automobile of Charles O'Brien Jr. close friend of young Hart, for the supposed purpose of extracting him as an intermediary was revealed yesterday as authorities delved further into the case.

APPROACHED CAR

A man identified as Thurmond approached O'Brien's car as he drove from a private garage in the rear of the O'Brien candy store, reached out his hand toward the door handle, changed his mind and disappeared.

It was after this that Holmes put in the telephone call to O'Brien, as told in his confession published in

prisonment without parole in cases in which the victim suffers injury.

3—Vincent Ridley and Al Cole, partners in a wood business in Oakland, in a report corroborated by Hayward police, tell of having heard cries for help while gathering driftwood near the San Mateo bridge at 7:25 p. m., November 3, about an hour and a half after young Hart's disappearance, and of having marched under the bridge in vain for the owner of the voice.

4—Jack Holmes knew his bravado breaks down and cries when visited at the City Prison by his father, Maurice Holmes, San Jose tailor, and his attorney, Ira B. Langdon of Berkeley, after having spent an apparently restless night. His accomplice, Thurmond, paced his cell smoking innumerable cigarettes all day. Each in his confession accuses the other of being the instigator of the plot.

5—Roused by the enormity of the crime, Alameda county authorities move for an "Anti Racket Council" to operate with special squads under the direction of Department of Justice agents.

6—Text of extortive notes sent by the kidnapers to Alex J. Hart are made public.

The orders to "find the woman" in the tragic abduction of the young San Jose merchant were given by Sheriff William J. Enig at San Jose.

CAUSED QUARREL

The sheriff revealed that the supposed woman had some connection with John Holmes and expressed the belief that she recently caused a quarrel between the slayer and his wife, mother of his two children.

For some weeks Holmes had been living apart from his wife and was arrested in a San Jose hotel shortly after Thurmond had been trapped telephoning their victim's father on Wednesday night.

He reported that Wesley Shavers of Campbell, near San Jose, had observed a woman and a man helping another man write a mysterious note last Monday.

WOMAN ON PHONE

In this connection was recalled the revelation made exclusively in The Chronicle that twice on the day of the kidnapping young Hart's friend, Charles O'Brien Jr., had been contacted on the telephone by a mysterious woman who inquired the whereabouts of Hart.

In a statement to newspaper men Thursday, Thurmond attributed his troubles and those of Holmes to women, asserting that Holmes in particular was entangled with a number of the fair sex who "had something on him" and to whom he was forced from time to time to pay financial tributes.

JUMPED ON CAR

rendevous they would have met a fate similar to that meted out to young Hart.

PURCHASED BRICKS

Antone Cavallo, employee at the California Concrete Products Company, 1700 South First street, San Jose, owned by J. T. Micaloy, yesterday identified as Thurmond a man, who, about November 1, purchased three 25-pound concrete bricks, such as the slayers say were used in weighting down Hart's body when they heaved him into the bay.

Holmes' confession differed from Thurmond's in some minor aspects, but in the main it dovetailed with that of his accomplice.

BEATEN WITH BRICK

Thurmond in his signed confession said Holmes beat Hart into insensibility with a brick and made no mention of a gun having been used.

On the bridge railing near where the cement block was recovered police found a small blood stain believed to mark the spot where the Hart body was cast into the bay.

Two San Jose lawyers appeared at the Hall of Justice last night accompanied by two married sister of Thurmond, displayed to Inspector Harry Riley an authorization signed by the prisoner's father to represent Thurmond as counsel and asked to see him.

SISTER KEPT OUT

At that time Thurmond had not been returned from Department of Justice headquarters. The sisters brought a change of clothing for the prisoner and asked permission to see him, but were told only his attorneys could interview the slayer at this time.

The lawyers, bearing the card of Gottenberg & Sheehy, drawn to newspaper men they had been engaged as Thurmond's counsel.

Holmes declared he knocked Hart down with a blow from his fist, and that after the two had bound their victim with baling wire and tossed him over the bridge rail, Thurmond emptied a revolver at Hart as he struggled in the water below.

Reed Vetterl, chief of the Department of Justice here, who took an active part in the investigation of the kidnapping and who aided in setting the trap, was unable yesterday to locate the gun.

ADmits CARRYING GUN

Thurmond since making his confession has confirmed the statement that he carried a gun during the kidnapping and declared he hid the weapon in Holmes' car, but a search of the car revealed no trace of it.

The brutality of the crime as revealed in Holmes' confession amazed police and Federal investigators familiar with all sorts of crimes and criminals.

no more. The... START... with his fist... head on the... quite still for... got the wire... and passed me... old for some... around his fee... overboard."

Then, according to the story... victim who... fanned around... Thurmond, a... the gun, climb... of the bridge... imagined Hart... WANTED... "Afterward,"... he said he... but wasn't sure... Later he said... will see some... The rest of... ly that told by... tailed the tale... Hart home and... sending of note...

More de...

Pasto... Disc...

Ray... speak on... "Kre" at... nline in... Docket... The story... "The story... in the... clothing...

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An apparent attempt Tuesday to stop the automobile of Charles O'Brien Jr. came instead of young Hart, for the supposed purpose of contacting him as an intermediary was revealed yesterday as authorities delved further into the case.

APPROACHED CAR

A man identified as Thurmond approached O'Brien's car as he drove from a private garage in the rear of the O'Brien candy store, reached out his hand toward the door handle, changed his mind and disappeared.

It was after this that Holmes put in the telephone call to O'Brien, as told in his confession published in yesterday's Chronicle, urging him to drive the dead youth's father, Alex J. Hart, San Jose department store owner, "toward Los Angeles" and instruct Hart to pay \$40,000 to the kidnapers for the return of his son.

Holmes, in his confession, revealed yesterday added new details of Hart's to the story of Thurmond and told of Thurmond having emptied a gun at their victim after they had brutally beaten him and buried his unware body into the bay from the San Mateo bridge an hour after the kidnapping. Other highlights of the day were:

1—Search for the slain youth's body continues by airplane, boat and automobile. Piece of material pulled up by trawling hooks Thursday night proved not to be from young Hart's shirt and what was first believed to have been a piece of flesh turns out to be of no value as a clue. Report of a "gray form" floating a mile from the Monterey shore starts a search for the body of unidentified youth.

2—District Attorney Fred L. Thomas of Santa Clara, promising "swift justice" for the confessed slayers, prepares to file complaint against the two under the recently enacted State kidnapping law which provides for the death penalty or life im-

prison and to pay \$10,000 a year. For some weeks Holmes had been living apart from his wife and was arrested in a San Jose hotel shortly after Thurmond had been trapped telephoning their victim's father on Wednesday night.

He reported that Wesley Blum of Campbell, near San Jose, had observed a woman and a man helping another man write a mysterious note last Monday.

WOMAN ON PHONE

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In a statement to newspaper men Thursday, Thurmond attributed his troubles and those of Holmes to women, asserting that Holmes in particular was entangled with a member of the fair sex who "had something on him" and to whom he was forced from time to time to pay financial tribute.

JUMPED ON CAR

In revealing the attempt of Thurmond to make physical contact with young O'Brien as an intermediary, officials said it occurred at dusk last Tuesday as O'Brien drove from a private garage back of the O'Brien candy store and cafe.

A man positively identified as Thurmond stepped on the running board and put his hand on the door handle and looked inquiringly at O'Brien. He appeared on the point of opening the door and getting into the car, then apparently thought better of it, leaped to the street and disappeared.

CONVERSATION REVEALED

Three-quarters of an hour later Thurmond had O'Brien on the telephone. The detailed conversation was revealed yesterday for the first time.

"Hello, Charley," said the voice now known to have been that of Thurmond.

Thurmond then told O'Brien to

wait two hours and to instruct Hart to carry \$40,000, which he was to hand to a man in a white mask who would intercept the car.

"One get that?" asked Thurmond, and cut off the connection.

Officials are convinced that had O'Brien and Hart Jr. gone to the

him, but were told only his attorney could interview the slayer at this time.

The lawyers, bearing the card of Gottenberg & Sheehy, denied to newspaper men they had been engaged as Thurmond's counsel.

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The brutality of the crime as revealed in Holmes' confessions amazed police and Federal investigators familiar with all sorts of crimes and criminals.

Holmes said that the kidnapping was first broached by Thurmond some two days before the kidnapping Thursday, November 8, after the two had attended a motion picture show in San Jose. At first, he said, they discussed holding the youth for ransom, then Thurmond advised "dropping him overboard some place."

At first taking the affair as a joke, Holmes said, he gradually accepted the idea.

He told of boarding Hart's car as he drove from the parking lot near the Hart store, of threatening him with a gun as they drove to a spot near Milpitas, of Thurmond following.

There they abandoned Hart's car and forced Hart to get into the car driven by Thurmond.

"I then gave the gun to Harold (Thurmond)," said Holmes, in his confession, and I went back and wiped off the doors and steering wheels of Hart's car to eliminate any finger prints.

GAVE HART CIGARETTE

He told of giving their victim a cigarette as the drive to the San Mateo wharf.

He told of putting a pillow slip over Hart's head, of Thurmond wondering how he was going to tie up Hart with the wire and of Holmes chiding him, "Mack, that is

MAN JAILED SOUGHT AS KIDNAP VICTIM

Bond of \$200,000 Fixed for
Suspected Leader of
Abduction Gang.

CHICAGO, November 11.—Police tonight said that Henry Bitters, 45, of near South, believed to have been a kidnapping victim, was a prisoner in the county jail on a capias charging larceny by receipt.

The police statement ended a search for Bitters which was organized earlier in the day after a neighbor reported seeing him dragged away in an automobile by two men. Edwin Oliver Pitt of Wild Chicago had said the description of one of the men apparently tallied in some respects with that of Jack Kline, University of Illinois graduate sought as head of a kidnap gang reported to have collected half a million dollars in ransom for abduction victims.

Bitters in the day Frank Bender of Bureau II, accused of being a member of the gang which kidnaped James Ratchford, gambler, and an associate of Kline, was held to \$200,000 bail, which he was unable to furnish.

SEMP SEARCH FUTILE

100 on Line Scrutinized by Police in
Hunt Kidnaping.

SAN FRANCISCO, Calif., November 11 (AP).—An airplane dash from San Francisco and an exhaustive search of an ocean liner here proved futile today for police and Federal agents seeking the kidnapers of Brenda L. Hart of San Jose.

The Northern officers, assisted by squads of police and detectives here and ship's officers, spent hours examining every passenger and person aboard the Harvard-bound Matson liner Lurline, looking for two suspicious characters reported snatched away on the ship's San Francisco-Los Angeles run. Babe Ruth, wife of the doctor, and some 100 other passengers were detained while the search went on.

The finding of a wallet, belonging to the wealthy young San Jose merchant, reported to be held for \$40,000 ransom, prompted the search. This was found last night on the guard rail of a first class stateroom, moored alongside the Lurline in San Francisco Bay. Officers secured the wallet and they traced down below on a night air transport and were waiting for the Lurline in berth.

Ship's officers reported two seamen, San Francisco, believed past passengers, were seen in the water near the ship. The two men were seen to have the ship. This led to the belief that kidnapers were on board and were snatched away.

Chief of Police J. M. Black of San Jose was checking a rumor that young Hart had incurred debts of which other members of his family did not know. He said he had found no verification of it.

John Sepulveda, rancher, told police he saw young Hart's motor car, with a man answering the general description of the missing youth, standing beside it alone and apparently tinkering with a headlight, at the exact spot where the car was found several hours after the disappearance. This occurred

and was between 7:00 p.m. and 7:15 p.m. Thursday, 10 miles north of here. Sepulveda's report served no purpose, however, as the young Hart had been

W.H.T. 9

WALLET NEW CLUE IN HART KIDNAPING

Starts Search of Ship for
Youth Held in \$40,000
Ransom in California.

By the Associated Press.

SAN FRANCISCO, November 11.—Discovery of a wallet bearing the name and containing personal cards of Bruce L. Hart, who was kidnaped from San Jose Thursday, was reported to authorities here today.

The wallet, on which Hart's name was embossed in gold letters, was found on the left pocket of his San Francisco suit. Authorities said the wallet had been found alongside the liner *Lurline*, which called for Los Angeles at 12:15 p.m. yesterday.

Los Angeles authorities were requested to search the *Lurline* when it arrived there on the theory the wallet may have been tossed from the liner.

CONTACT IS DENIED.

Members of Hart Family Say Abductor
Was Never Met.

SAN JOSE, Calif., November 11 (AP).—Reports that kidnapers had made contact with members of the A. J. Hart family, demanding payment of \$40,000 ransom for release of the son, Bruce, 22, were vehemently denied by all investigators and members of the family today.

Sam Vetter, head of the Bureau of Investigation, Department of Justice, San Francisco, said late last night: "Up to the time I left the Hart home a few minutes ago there had been no contact whatsoever with the abduction of Bruce Hart. If there had been, I would have known it."

The father was so emphatic in stating that no contact had been made that he was Chief of Police J. M. Smith, Sheriff William J. Baig, members of the family and close friends, who had been with him at 12:15 p.m. yesterday.

The only communication received according to all, is two telephone messages from San Francisco about 10:30 p.m. Thursday. In this message, Mrs. Martin Hart, 18-year-old sister of Bruce, was informed of the ransom price of \$40,000, that Bruce was well, that further instructions would follow. The girl was warned not to inform the police.

NOT RECORDED

7-375-A

W. H. A. J. 11/11/33

PLANES BEGIN HUNT FOR KIDNAPED HART

SAN JOSE, Calif., Nov. 12 (INS).
Airplanes today were used in an endeavor to find Brooks Hart, 22, kidnaped son of a wealthy San Jose merchant. From the San Jose airport, several planes were dispatched during the day by Sheriff William J. Emig.

The ships were piloted by Santa Clara Valley aviators, but contained deputy sheriffs and men from the Department of Justice.

The planes were to scout particularly over the mountains east of San Jose. It was in this general direction that young Hart's car, with lights still burning, was found last Thursday night, a few hours before a voice over the telephone demanded \$40,000 from the abducted youth's father, Alex J. Hart.

The sheriff believes that the missing youth will be found hidden in some of the tunnels along around the Black Mountains, the Calaveras Dam.

NOT RECORDED

7-375 A

W.H. 10/13/31

November 12, 1933 - WASHINGTON D.C. POST.

Ship Searched For Kidnapers

Rabe Ruth, 164 Others
Detained in Coast
Police Hunt.

San Diego, Calif., Nov. 11 (AP).—An airplane dash from San Francisco and an exhaustive search of an ocean liner here proved futile today for police and Federal agents seeking the kidnapers of Brooke L. Hart of San Jose.

The Southern officers, aided by squads of police and detectives here and ship's officers, spent hours examining every passenger and person aboard the Hawaii-bound liner, the *Lincoln*, looking for two suspicious characters reported as having fled from the San Francisco port.

Rabe Ruth and his daughter and 160 other passengers were detained for the search while the search went on.

The sailing of a *Lincoln* vessel to the western coast San Jose merchant, reported to be held for \$40,000 ransom, prompted the search. This was found last night on the guard rail of a boat, which had been lowered yesterday, and the *Lincoln* in San Francisco Bay.

NOT RECORDED

7-375-A

OK D.S. 10/11

SAN FRANCISCO Daily Herald - November 12, 1933

Wide Hunt Fails To Find Victim of Coast Kidnapers

Liner, Cities and Woods Are
Searched in Vain for
Brooke L. Hart

SAN FRANCISCO, Nov. 11 (U.S.)—One of the mightiest forces ever assembled for a California man hunt today found itself against a stone wall in the search for Brooke L. Hart, 22, son of a wealthy San Jose merchant, of the men suspected of kidnaping the youth some time last Thursday evening.

The kidnapers have demanded \$40,000 ransom from Alex J. Hart, father of the boy, but have failed to instruct the father how to pay over the money.

LINER SEARCHED

Today's developments were: 1. San Francisco and Los Angeles police searched the liner *Lurline* when it docked at Los Angeles today and questioned each of the 120 passengers aboard, but without result. It was believed that the *Lurline* might furnish some clue to the kidnapers because of the theory that Hart's wallet found on the tanker *Midway* may have been thrown from a porthole of the liner.

2. Radio messages were dispatched to the liner *Santa Paula*, en route to New York, and the liner *President Van Buren*, bound for Honolulu, asking that these ships be searched for some clue. Both ships sailed from San Francisco within a few hours of the *Lurline's* departure.

3. Santa Clara and San Mateo county authorities continued to search the hills and wooded sections of their counties for some trace of a kidnaper's hideout.

4. All officials connected with the case said that the finding of Hart's wallet in San Francisco Bay had convinced them that the youth had been kidnaped and had not disappeared or eloped.

FATHER AWAITING WORD

At San Jose the elder Hart remained beside a telephone in his home awaiting further word from the kidnapers to supplement the first contacts in which the kidnapers demanded the \$40,000 ransom. The kidnapers sent no further messages today, the father said.

But as today was a bank holiday no further word was expected from the abductors until Monday which would be the earliest time Hart could obtain the ransom.

Mr. Hart
Mr. Tolson
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Jones
Mr. Quinn
Mr. Nease
Mr. Lester
Mr. Lusk

NOT RECORDED
7-375-A

WASHINGTON D.C. Times - November

11 1933.

KIDNAPED YOUTH SOUGHT ON SHIP

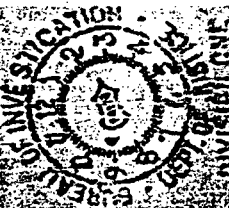
SAN FRANCISCO, Nov. 10 (U.P.)—Search for the kidnaper of Brooke Hart, San Jose youth held for \$40,000 ransom, centered suddenly today upon the Matson liner Lurline, due at Los Angeles.

The missing youth's wallet was discovered lying on the guard rail of an oil tanker which had lain alongside the Lurline yesterday morning between midnight and 4 a. m.

Police believed that the wallet had been tossed from a port hole of the liner. They did not believe Hart could have been brought as a captive aboard the Lurline, but declared that either the kidnappers had boarded the ship after leaving him dead or a prisoner with other gang members, or Hart had gone aboard of his own volition.

Aid of Los Angeles police was enlisted to search the ship and its passengers and crew when it docks.

Mr. Nathan	_____
Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Clegg	_____
Mr. Glavin	_____
Mr. Ladd	_____
Mr. Nichols	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Tracy	_____
Mr. Carson	_____
Mr. Egan	_____
Mr. Gurnea	_____
Mr. Hendon	_____
Mr. Jones	_____
Mr. Quinn	_____
Mr. Nease	_____
Mr. Gandy	_____



NOV 16 1933

NOT RECORDED

7-375-A

12/18/33

CONTACT MADE WITH KIDNAPER OF RICH YOUTH

But Abductors Fail to Give
Terms or Other Directions
to Father of Brooke Hart

SAN FRANCISCO, Nov. 10 (U. S.)—Two new contacts were made today between the kidnapers of Brooke Hart, 22 son of a wealthy San Jose merchant, who has been missing since 8 o'clock last night, and the family of the captive youth.

But, although the kidnapers communicated with Alex J. Hart, father of the victim, both by letter and by telephone, the kidnapers failed to inform Hart of their terms or how they expected him to deliver the \$25,000 they demanded as ransom in the first kidnap message yesterday.

MAN HUNT IN PROGRESS

The two messages came as one of the greatest man hunts in California history was in progress, with federal state and the police departments of nearly a score of cities cooperating in running down every clue.

Today's first contact was a letter delivered to the palatial Hart home in San Jose. Shortly after noon a young woman rang the doorbell. Hart answered.

The girl handed him a letter addressed to "Mr. and Mrs. Hart" in an educated hand. She told Hart that the letter had been handed to her by a well-dressed man of 25, with the request that she deliver it to the Hart home. The letter read:

"This is to verify our telephone call last night. We have Brooke and are treating him right. No harm will come to him. If you pay over the money as we will direct you to, and if you stay away five miles we won't bring them into this. We will get in touch with you later and tell you where to leave the money."

TELEPHONE CALL

One hour later came the second contact, a telephone call.

"You got our letter and you know we mean business. No, Mr. Hart, we want to get this over with as easy as we can. We want money, and we'll tell you how to get it to us. And don't tell in the paper. Of course, we know they're working on this and you can't help it, but keep them out of your house and out of your mind. We'll be in touch with you later."

WASHINGTON D. C. HERALD November 11, 1933.

Mr. Nathan	_____
Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Clegg	_____
Mr. Glavin	_____
Mr. Ladd	_____
Mr. Nichols	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Tracy	_____
Mr. Carson	_____
Mr. Egan	_____
Mr. Gurnea	_____
Mr. Hendon	_____
Mr. Jones	_____
Mr. Quinn	_____
Mr. Nease	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

NOT RECORDED

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10 1032

W.H.R.S.

WASHINGTON D.C. POST - November 11, 1933.

Youth's Kidnapers Demand \$10,000

San Jose, Calif., Nov. 10 (AP). Kidnapers of Brookhart, 22, former Santa Clara University student, who disappeared last night, said to have communicated twice today with his wealthy father, Alvin J. Hart. They demanded \$10,000 ransom.

Chief of Police J. N. Black told the United Press he did not believe Hart had been kidnaped.

"We expect to find him tonight or tomorrow near where he left his car," Black said.

Sheriff William Enig and Department of Justice agents renewed activity in the case tonight when Hart said he had received a letter and a telephone call.

NOT RECORDED

WASHINGTON D.C. TIMES - November 10 1933

OUTLAW HUNTED AS KIDNAPER

SAN JOSE, Cal., Nov. 10 (I.N.S.)

The name of "Pretty Boy" Floyd, notorious Midwestern outlaw, today entered the investigation of the kidnaping for a \$40,000 ransom of Bertha Hart, 22-year-old sister of a wealthy and prominent San Jose family.

Sheriff William J. Davis said he had received information that the kidnaping for ransom was the work of a gang headed by Floyd.

Floyd has been reported seen in various parts of Central and Southern California during the last few months.

NOT RECORDED

W. H. A. G.

7-375-A

WASHINGTON D.C. STAR - November 10 1934

Mr. Tolson	
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Glavin	
Mr. Ladd	
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tracy	
Mr. Carson	
Mr. Egan	
Mr. Gurnea	
Mr. Hendon	
Mr. Lester	
Mr. Quinn	
Mr. Nease	
Miss Gandy	

RICH MERCHANT'S SON IS KIDNAPED

Parents of Young Californian

Received Demand for \$40,000 Ransom.

By the Associated Press.
 SAN JOSE, Calif., November 10.—An anonymous telephone caller who demanded payment of \$40,000 "if you want to see your boy alive again" startled Federal, state and local officers today on an intensive hunt for kidnapers a few hours after the disappearance here of Brooks Hart, 12, son of Alexander J. Hart, one of San Jose's wealthiest merchants.
 Hart, a recent graduate of the University of Santa Clara, who had just been made a partner of his father's department store, shortly after 11 p.m. yesterday to go to a nearby parking lot and drive to his parents' home. His failure to arrive at home on schedule aroused the uneasiness of his family. The family said that three men in a large automobile, evidently kidnapers, tried to crowd young Hart's car from a highway three weeks ago but he eluded them.
 About 10 o'clock last night, the Hart home was called by telephone, caller said, and a man demanded payment of \$40,000. Officers said no directions were given as to how to locate the money. The call was traced to a public telephone booth in a large San Francisco hotel.
 Early today young Hart's abandoned car was found 10 miles north of here,

the lights burning. Officers began a search of the California area nearby. Fingerprints on young Hart's car were taken.

Hart's mother was prostrated, but the father remained grimly calm. He did not say how he viewed the demand for \$40,000.

Associates of the missing youth said he was of good habits and quiet and was not particularly fond of the company of girls.

Penitentiary on an issue, says he will be placed in the pen. Dore said a hearing for Morgan.

NOT RECORDED

7-375 A

10-6089

Mr. Nathan
Mr. Tolson
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Egan
Mr. Foxworth
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Jones
Mr. Quinn
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

24

IT'S \$40,000, Or Else! Is Word Of Kidnapers To Father Of California Victim. Car, Lights Burning, Is Found On Road, Shortly After Telephone Warning To Parents. Hamm Identifies One Of Touhy's Gang

As Thug Who Took Him On Abduction Ride. Trial Opens In St. Paul— Man And Wife Seized— Texan Is Questioned As To Urschel Money.

San Jose, Calif., November 10—
(AP)—Ransom of \$40,000 is de-
manded of Alexander J. Hart,
wealthy merchant, for the return of
his twenty-two-year-old son, Brooke
Hart, the object of a statewide hunt
as a kidnapping victim.

An anonymous telephone caller
said the money must be paid "if
you want to see your boy alive
again," but gave no instructions as
to the manner of payment.

One of the most formidable kid-
naping organizations ever
active in the United States is
believed to be in the case to-

IT'S \$40,000, CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE.

less, Elvira and Miriam, all younger
than himself.

Los Angeles, November 10—(AP)—
Deputy Sheriff Ed Durant of San
Bernardino County, messenger of
fieri here today that a Mr. and
Mrs. Gleason, proprietors of a cafe
at Trona, borax town, 150 miles
northwest of here, had been kid-
naped by three men, who fled with
them in a black sedan.

Durant said Mr. and Mrs. Glei-
son were seized in their cafe. The
man was flung into the sedan, he said,
and Gleason, who broke loose, was
pursued down the road and cap-
tured again.

St. Paul, Minn., November 10—
(AP)—William Hamm Jr., in a
trance Federal courtroom, today tes-
tified that Eddie McFadden, a Cal-
ifornia gangster, resembled one of
the men who forced him into an
automobile when he was kidnaped
here last June 15.

The millionaire St. Paul brewer
stepped out of the witness box and,
with a dramatic gesture, walked
over to where McFadden was sit-
ting with three co-defendants and
pointed a finger to within a few
inches of McFadden's chest.

"This man," Hamm said, "resem-
bled the older man on my right."

The "man on the right" to whom
Hamm referred was one of two men
who picked him up near his brew-
ery offices, compelled him to enter
a sedan and took him to some place
in Wisconsin, believed near Jave-
ville and Beloit.

McFadden raised his bald head
and looked the millionaire squarely
in the eye.

Hamm told the story of his ab-
duction and identified three notes
bearing his signature as those he
signed at the demand of the ab-
ductors.

Courtroom An Arsenal

George H. Sullivan, United States
District Attorney, beginning his
opening statement to the jury under
the watchful gaze of more than 10
guards armed with pistols and tear
gas guns, named McFadden, Roger
Touhy, gang leader, and Willie
Sharky as three men whom the
prosecution would show were in-
volved directly in the \$100,000 ab-
duction. Gustav Schaefer is al-
timate slave.

The evidence will show that
Roger Touhy was in the Thorne
drug store in the outskirts of the
city June 15 and placed a note in
one of the bottles in which people
carried money, said the

before Commissioner Lee R. Smith
would be held tomorrow.

San Jose, Calif., November 12—
(AP)—An appeal to the kidnapers
of Brooke L. Hart to establish con-
tact for negotiations of a ransom
payment was issued by the missing
youth's father and mother from
their home here tonight.

Division

West

San Francisco police said they had no clue, but Charles Butler, Captain of detectives, said he had "been informed" that the abductors would get in touch with the Hart family later and that his force was awaiting such a development.

Search of the Calaveras Dam area, 25 miles northeast of here, was made in the hope of picking up the trail of the young merchant. His motor car, its lights still burning, was found early today on a road leading to that district, in which many deserted cottages are located.

FATHER IS SILENT.

The older Hart remained silent as to the ransom demand and what his course would be. He received a telephone call from San Francisco four hours after young Hart's disappearance, demanding the ransom. The call was traced to a public booth in a large San Francisco hotel, but no man could be found who had used it as originator.

Police said two calls from the hotel to the Hart home brought "the busy" reports before the father was contacted on the third call. Efforts to reach the Hart home by telephone from a San Francisco speakeasy, shortly before the hotel booth calls, also were discovered, police said.

Rod C. Vetterli, head of the Department of Justice in San Francisco, conferred there throughout the day with Captain Dulles, but neither would disclose whether a clue had been located.

"PRETTY BOY" IN IT?

Recent reports that Charles "Pretty Boy" Floyd, Oklahoma outlaw, had been seen in Central California were called to the attention of authorities, but there was no indication that investigators considered he may have a connection with the case.

Young Hart, who recently left his studies at Santa Clara University to become junior partner of his father, was last seen departing from the store shortly before 6 p. m. yesterday. His failure to return home by 8 o'clock caused a search to be started. Two hours later the older Hart received the telephone call.

Associates said young Hart was of regular habits and not particularly fond of the company of girls. Although occasionally he had attended college functions with Miss Jane Hammond, Sacramento, a student at San Jose State College.

The missing youth has a brother, Alexander Hart Jr., and two sis-

Continued On Page 4, Column 1.

San Francisco police said they had no clue, but Charles Butler, Captain of detectives, said he had "been informed" that the abductors would get in touch with the Hart family later and that his force was awaiting such a development.

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"Just A Crazy Idea."

Dallas, Texas, November 10.—APU—Officers said today J. A. Morgan told them just a "crazy idea" impelled him to send letters to Charles F. Ulrich, telling him he had \$50,000 of his \$100,000 ransom paid for Ulrich's release buried on his Wise County farm. "I needed money because the mortgage on my farm was overdue and I am trying to put my two boys through college," police quoted Morgan as saying.

E. J. Dowd, Department of Justice Agent, said Morgan had made a complete statement.

Morgan was taken into custody yesterday at his farm, 16 miles southwest of Decatur, by Frank J. Blake, Department of Justice Agent, and Detective Lieutenant Will Fritz, of Dallas. They went there with Ulrich and E. E. Kirkpatrick, Ulrich's personal representative who was active in effecting his release from kidnapers July 31.

Blake said Morgan had told them three men came to his farm to hunt squirrels that he had later one of the trio had been convicted in the Ulrich kidnaping and that he investigated and found the money buried in a pasture. Blake said he told them he would lead them to the cache where he had hid the loot.

"He turned suddenly and said, 'I might as well tell you. I've been lying to you all along. There isn't any money buried here,'" Blake related.

The first letter, typewritten and postmarked, was mailed October 27 at Decatur. It told Ulrich the writer knew of the whereabouts of part of the ransom money and gave directions for recovery through a newspaper advertisement.

Says Mortgage Overdue.

In response to this letter, the following advertisement appeared in a Fort Worth newspaper:

"Well, Inger, Wise County, Texas: Your letter about glass jars received. Will appreciate more details as to proposed value. Will guarantee square deal. No publicity and will execute contract to your satisfaction. Owner at present away, but I am his partner and can personally represent him. Address P. O. Box 1166, Oklahoma City, so that meeting may be arranged between us."

"The \$100 mortgage on my farm was overdue," Morgan explained today, "and I thought if I could meet Mr. Ulrich, maybe I could get him interested in me and get him to help me. I had been reading in the papers about the kidnaping and knew he had a lot of money. It was just a crazy idea. I don't know why I did it."

Morgan said he did not know R. G. (Boss) Shannon or his wife Harvey. Blake, Kathryn and Cleve (Machine Gun) Kelly, all under life sentences in the kidnaping. It was on Shannon's farm, 10 miles southwest of Decatur, that Ulrich was held prisoner.

Police said Morgan admitted having served three years in the Texas Penitentiary on an arson charge, to which he pleaded guilty.

Dowd said a hearing for Morgan

THE KANSAS CITY STAR NOVEMBER 1933

NO TRACE OF BROOKE HART.

California Police Check New Clues
in Kidnaping Case.

(By the Associated Press.)

SAN JOSE, Cal., Nov. 12.—While members of the family of Brooke Hart, missing 12-year-old son of a wealthy store owner, persisted in their belief they had received further word from the supposed kidnapers of the youth, J. M. Black, chief of police today was busily checking new clues in the case.

He sought information regarding "Hardcase" Jack Klutas, middle-western police character wanted for kidnaping in Iowa. Chicago authorities notified Black that Klutas was reported to have been in central California recently.

An airplane flying over the Mt. Hamilton range east of here where young Hart often rode horseback with a companion killed there two weeks ago, gave rise to reports the Hart family had commissioned the pilot to scan the mountain district.



NOT RECORDED

7-373-A

WASHINGTON, D. C., POST - November 14, 1933.

Harvey Bailey

From the Louisville Courier-Journal.

Induced by movie melodramas and occasional press stories, the public in general has formed a false picture of the really big gangster type. The popular conception of the public enemy is a man of foreign name and appearance, most likely an Italian, with a loud, brutal, domineering personality, a flashy taste for dress that runs to silk shirts in violent colors and diamond studs, and a general air of underworld slickness that would warn any person in his right senses of the danger of dealing with such an individual. In reality, the man of this type is much more likely to be the "phony racketeer," or at best the "front" for some more subtle and intelligent criminal.

As a case in point, take Harvey Bailey, who is now safe in the hands of the Federal Government. He is anything but the flashy type of gangster. It has been said of him that he has much more the appearance of a bank president than of a bank robber, and his manner helps to carry out the illusion. His photographs show a face that betrays none of the familiar criminal characteristics. The head is well-shaped, the chin square and strong, the forehead wide. The eyes are set well apart, and have neither the lack-luster nor the shifty appearance that is so frequently seen in rogues' gallery photographs. Bailey is a tall man, well-built, and his clothes are of sober cut and pattern. His name is straight Anglo-Saxon, and though little is known of his background and early history, he is thought to have been born on a farm in Sullivan County, Mo., where his mother still lives.

Such is the man who played a part of crime across the Middle West and escaped for years without punishment. He is charged with participation in four of the most notorious episodes in American crime history: The brutal St. Valentine's Day massacre which took place in Chicago in 1929, in which a group of men were lined up against a wall and murdered in cold blood; the Union Station massacre in Kansas City last year, which resulted in the death of five men; the \$2,000,000 robbery of the Lincoln Bank & Trust Co. at Lincoln, Mo.; and the Bremer kidnapping case, which finally involved him with the forces of the new Federal kidnapping bureau and resulted in his arrest and conviction. Back of the man whom every experienced criminal probably would not pick as a criminal, there is the ordinary person who would make for a rather respectable citizen.

Mr. Nathan	.....
Mr. Tolson	.....
Mr. Clegg	.....
Mr. Glavin	.....
Mr. Ladd	.....
Mr. Nichols	.....
Mr. Rosen	.....
Mr. Tracy	.....
Mr. Carson	.....
Mr. Egan	.....
Mr. Gurnea	.....
Mr. Hendon	.....
Mr. Lester	.....
Mr. Quinn	.....
Mr. Nease	.....
Miss Gandy	.....

NOT RECORDED

7-115-A

W.A. R. 9



SAN JOSE Cal., Nov. 12. (AP) — International News Service — The name of "Red" Joe Floyd, notorious mid-western assassin and killer, today entered the investigation of the kidnapping for a \$40,000 ransom of Brenda Hart, 22-year-old sister of a wealthy and prominent family.

Sheriff William J. Craig said he had received information that the abduction was the work of Floyd gang.

SAN JOSE Cal., Nov. 12. (AP) — International News Service — The name of "Red" Joe Floyd, notorious mid-western assassin and killer, today entered the investigation of the kidnapping for a \$40,000 ransom of Brenda Hart, 22-year-old sister of a wealthy and prominent family.

Sheriff William J. Craig said he had received information that the abduction was the work of Floyd gang.

Floyd has been reported seen in various parts of Central and Southern California during the past few months.

A posse from the sheriff's office turned a three-day search in the vicinity of Chatsworth, Tenn. in a hamade corner to

Mr. La Guardia has almost full support of the city's business and professional men, and the city's financial resources are abundant. The city's financial resources are abundant. The city's financial resources are abundant.

[illegible]

THE HAWK-EYE WAS NOT COPIED
FROM THE HOLD-OVERS.

THESE ARE THE NAMES OF THE
 PEOPLE WHO WERE IN THE
 CAR WHEN IT WAS STOPPED
 BY THE POLICE ON 11/11/77
 AT THE INTERSECTION OF
 1ST AVE AND 1ST ST
 IN NEW YORK CITY

Kidnapers Hold Merchant's Son, Phone Death Threat, Ask \$10,000

By The Associated Press

SAN JOSE, Calif., Nov. 10. — Kidnapers of \$10,000 a ransom for the return of a twenty-two-year-old son, Bruce Hart, the object of a state-wide hunt for a kidnapping victim.

An anonymous telephone caller told the money must be paid "if you want to see your boy alive again," but gave no instructions as to the manner of payment.

One of the most formidable kidnaper-hunting organizations ever called into action in northern California was pursuing clues in the case tonight. The department of justice agents, the police of San Francisco and San Jose and peace officers of the entire Bay district united in the hunt a few hours after the disappearance of young Hart after he left the department store in which he recently had been working.

San Jose police held Tony B. Jones, recently released after being under watch for questioning, but released him after a few hours of questioning.

San Jose police also held Charles J. Jones, 30, and "Lorinda" Williams, 20, who are being held in connection with the Hart family and that no other was waiting for developments.

Search of the Calaveras Dam area, 100 miles north of here, was made in the hope of picking up the car of the young merchant. His motor car, its lights still burning, was found today on a road leading to that district, in which many deserted cars are located.

Known Identifies Kidnapers

ST. PAUL, Nov. 10. — William Hagan Jr., in a top federal courtroom today testified that he knew a Chicago gangster, identified one of the men who forced him into an automobile when he was arrested here last June 13.

The St. Paul police officer, who was arrested on charges of kidnapping, was sitting in a car when he was arrested and pointed out the man who was a member of the Chicago gang.

The man, who was identified as a member of the Chicago gang, was arrested on charges of kidnapping. He was identified as a member of the Chicago gang, which was known to be involved in the Hart family kidnapping.

ST. PAUL, Nov. 10. — William Hagan Jr., in a top federal courtroom today testified that he knew a Chicago gangster, identified one of the men who forced him into an automobile when he was arrested here last June 13.

SUNDAY TRIBUNE, SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 1933

Hart Kidnapers Sought in Vain On Pacific Liner

San Francisco Officers Dash
to San Pedro by Plane
for Check of Larine List

Babe Ruth a Passenger

Man Abducted Near Chicago
a Suspicious Post Office

By The Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO, Calif., Nov. 21.—An airplane dash from San Francisco today to San Pedro, Calif., for a check of the Larine list, a list of names of persons who have been reported missing, was made today by a plane from the Pacific Coast.

The search party, headed by the San Francisco police, was on the way to San Pedro, Calif., today, when it was reported that the plane had been sighted near San Pedro.

The plane was reported to have been sighted near San Pedro, Calif., today.

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NY 100-108144

San Jose police questioned Tony Dancone, 23, said to be an underworld character, but released him after several hours of examination.

Search of the Talavera Dam area, twenty-five miles northeast of San Jose, was made in the hope of picking up the trail of the young merchant. His motor car, the license still burning, was found early today on a road leading to that city.

Nov. 10
Durant of
and word
at a Mr.
of a
town, 150
had been
who fled
haden.
ing his the
STANLEY, who
down the

11-11-33

1938

Farrelson, Brooklyn, Hart and U. S. Agents
Both Repudiate Report.

Reed Vetterli, San Francisco head of the Bureau of Investigation, Department of Justice, said late last night.

"Up to the time I left the Hart home a few minutes ago there had been no contact whatsoever with the abductors of Brooke Hart. If there had been such contact, in any manner, I would know about it."

The father was as emphatic in denial as were Chief of Police J. M. Winkler, Sheriff William J. King, members of the family, and close friends who had been with them all day and evening. The family communication re-

[illegible]

THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20535

N.Y.S.U.N. 11-10-33

KIDNAPERS ASK HART RANSOM

Demand for \$40,000 Is Traced to San Francisco.

SAN JOSE, Cal., Nov. 10 (A. P.)—An anonymous telephone caller who demanded payment of \$40,000 "if you want to see your boy alive again" started Federal agents and State and local police today on an intensive hunt for kidnapers a few hours after the disappearance here of Brooks Hart, 22 years old, son of Alexander J. Hart, one of San Jose's wealthiest merchants.

Young Hart, a recent graduate of the University of Santa Clara, who had just been made a partner of his father's firm, left his department store shortly after 5 P. M. yesterday to go to a nearby parking lot and drive to the parents' home.

He failed to arrive at home around 10 o'clock, to the surprise of his family, who said he had been the intended victim of what appeared to have been a kidnaping attempt about three weeks previously. At that time, the family said, three men in a large automobile tried to crowd young Hart's car from a highway, but he eluded them.

Police said, a man called up the Hart home and demanded payment of \$40,000 "if you want to see your son alive again." Police officers said the caller hung up without giving directions as to how he would collect the money, if offered. The call was traced to a public telephone booth in a large San Francisco hotel.

Early today young Hart's abandoned car was found ten miles north of here, the engine burning. It was at the end of the highway leading to the Calaveras Dam region, twenty-five miles northwest of San Jose, where many deserted cottages are located. On the strength of this, police officers began a search of the Calaveras area.

Fingerprints on young Hart's car were taken by police. They divulged any clues the caller refused to say.

Father silent.

Hart's father, Alexander J. Hart, but the father was completely silent. He did not even acknowledge the demand for ransom.

Associated Press reporter, who said he was in contact with the quiet and withdrawn father, son of the company.

LOS ANGELES, Nov. 10 (A. P.)—Deputy Sheriff Bernardine here today said that Mrs. Delaney, proprietress of a cafe at Lyons, borax town 100 miles north-east of here, had been snatched by three men who forced them to a dark room.

Deputy Sheriff Bernardine and Mrs. Delaney were seen in their cafe.

Call Traced to Hotel.
About 12 o'clock last night, the

Mr. Nathan
Mr. Tolson
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Jones
Mr. Quinn
Mr. Nease
Mr. Gandy

REVEAL RICH COAST YOUTH KIDNAPED

Vanishes After Once
Escaping From
Cangiers

SAN JOSE, Cal., Nov. 14
(AP)—Brooks Hart, 22-year-
old son of A. J. Hart, San Jose
businessman, was reported by police today
to have been kidnapped as he
left the store in
afternoon.
At 1:30 p. m., May Hart, 40,
was found, just off the Calaveras
road, San Jose, southwest of San
Jose, and officers were making to
trace the kidnaped from there.
and car was reported to the street
the officer by a rancher named
Hart. The rancher said that
the positively identified it as
Young Hart, who last September
became a member of the firm of
H. Hart & Son, owned by his father,
was usually punctual in his
duties. When he failed to appear
at work and had not been heard
from for hours an intensive search
was instituted.
Officers told of what was believed
to have been a previous attempt to
kidnap the boy. Three weeks ago
Hart was in a large crowd in the
crowd Brown's automobile to the
court. Unobserved, they followed
him for several blocks, but he
disappeared them in his speeding

Chicago American

NOT RECORDED

11-10-33

7 376-4

12/14

HIS CAR FOUND IN ROAD WITH LIGHTS BURNING

Father Gets Message Dis-
closing Seizure of Uni-
versity Graduate

THREATEN HIS LIFE

San Jose, Cal., Nov. 12. (UP)—
Brooke Hart, 22, Santa Clara univer-
sity graduate and son of a promi-
nent San Jose merchant, was held by
kidnappers today for \$25,000 ransom.

The ransom demand was tele-
phoned from San Francisco to the
home of A. J. Hart, the youth's
father. It was Hart's first intimation
that his son, who had failed to keep
an appointment with him late yester-
day, had been kidnaped.

"We have your son and want \$25,000
for him. Don't get in touch with
the police or you will never see your
son again," the message said.

Disregarding the warning, Hart
called the police. The call was traced
to a San Francisco hotel.

The youth's automobile was found
early today, north of San Jose on
a country road. The headlights were
burning. There was no sign of a strug-
gle at the spot, the police reported.
Federal, county and state officers
joined local authorities in the hunt.

Fate is unknown.

Los Angeles, Cal., Nov. 12. (UP)—
George Dickinson, 22, was held by
himself today by three men
after a gun battle at Trough Creek
down in San Bernardino county, the
Los Angeles county sheriff's office
announced today.

NOT RECORDED

375-A

Chicago Daily News

11-10-33

WASHINGTON D. C. 7047 - November 14, 1932

Two Clues Fail In Hart Kidnaping

Mystery Shrouds Abduction of California Youth.

San Jose, Calif., Nov. 13 (AP).—What authorities had regarded as two clues to the apparent kidnaping of Brooks Hart, 22, son of a wealthy San Jose merchant, vanished today, leaving the case as much of a mystery as it was last Thursday night when the youth disappeared.

Disclosure was made that the Hart family had received a telegram from Sacramento suggesting \$25,000 be offered as a compromise ransom to meet the original demand for \$40,000 upon Alexander Hart, the father, a few hours after the boy disappeared.

Check-up revealed the telegram was sent by James Meakin, a friend of the Hart family, who said he believed even an offer would cause return of the youth.

The second clue exploded in Oakland, where police arrested Burr H. Poole, printer, who admitted writing the note and making the telephone call. He said he had been drinking and thought it would be "a good joke."

Mr. Nathan	_____
Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Clegg	_____
Mr. Glavin	_____
Mr. Ladd	_____
Mr. Nichols	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Tracy	_____
Mr. Carson	_____
Mr. Egan	_____
Mr. Gurnea	_____
Mr. Hendon	_____
Mr. Lester	_____
Mr. Quinn	_____
Mr. Nease	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

NOT RECORDED

WASH. POST, D.C., Times & November 13 1933.

HART KIDNAPING 'BREAK' NEAR, POLICE SAY

SAN JOSE, Cal., Nov. 13 (I.N.S.).—Department of Justice agents today announced that they expected a "break" in the mysterious Brooks L. Hart kidnaping case "within a few hours."

Refusing to reveal upon what grounds or information they base their expectations, the Government men insisted that "this case will break open right away."

Ransom Available Today

Chief of Police J. M. Egan was of the same opinion, but stated that he based his belief on the fact that for the first time since Friday the banks will be open, so that Alexander J. Hart, wealthy department store owner and father of the missing 22-year-old Brooks, can obtain in cash the \$40,000 ransom which has been demanded.

Case Puzzles Police

Captain of Inspectors Charles Dolan, of San Francisco declared the case has several circumstances which make it a puzzle. He said:

"The only definite clue we have so far, is the finding of the Hart boy's wallet on the guard rail of the old tanker midway Friday after she had loaded the liner Lurline at pier 22. That means, of course, that either young Hart was at that pier after his disappearance Thursday night, or some one was there who had the last actual contact with him."

Liner Is Combed

Authorities believe the wallet had been tossed from the Lurline, which was searched thoroughly when she docked at Los Angeles harbor Saturday morning.

Two San Francisco detectives, a United States Department of Justice investigator, and a family friend went to Los Angeles by airplane to help Southern California authorities and ship's officers make the search.

NOT RECORDED

7-375-A

W.H.D. 9

11/16

Youth Held for \$40,000 Ransom Hunted on Ship

SAN FRANCISCO, Nov. 11.—Search for the kidnapers of Brooke Hart, San Jose youth held for \$40,000 ransom, centered suddenly today upon the Matson liner Lurline, due at Los Angeles this morning.

The missing man's wallet was discovered lying on the guard rail of an oil tanker which had lain alongside the Lurline yesterday morning between midnight and 5 a. m.

Police believed the wallet had been tossed from a port-hole of the liner. They did not believe Hart could have been brought as a captive aboard the Lurline, but declared that either the kidnapers had boarded the ship after leaving him dead or a prisoner with other gang members, or Hart had gone aboard of his own volition.

Aid of Los Angeles police was enlisted to search the ship and its passengers and crew when it docks.

The Lurline left here at 12:20 p. m. yesterday.

ST. PAUL, Nov. 11.—The Tschy gang is tougher and probably more dangerous than the Kelly-Bailey-Miller mob ever was. The government is determined to rid the country of this gang.

That is Assistant Attorney General Keenan's explanation of his participation in the trial of Roger Touhy, youthful chief of Chicago's toughest post-Capone gang, and three associates for the kidnaping last June of William Hamm, Jr., wealthy young St. Paul brewer.

When the trial is resumed Monday, Hamm, the victim of the \$100,000 kidnaping here will again be on the stand in Federal Judge Joyce's court as the government's star witness.

NY JOURNAL 11/11/35

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

FILED

NOV 12

HART BOY SLAIN, KIDNAPER SAYS

SAN JOSE, Cal., Nov. 15 (AP) — Brooks Hart, 23-year-old son of Alex Hart, wealthy department store owner, kidnap victim, was murdered by his two abductors and tossed into San Francisco Bay, it was announced here today by Sheriff W. J. Emig.

The kidnaping and murder have been confessed, according to the sheriff. A statement was taken from one of the abductors.

The body has not yet been recovered, the sheriff said. He said Thomas H. Thurman, one of the abductors, confessed that he and J. M. Holmes wired Hart's arms behind him, hit him with a brick and then threw his body in the bay from the San Mateo county bay bridge.

Officers said Thurman admitted Hart was kidnaped for ransom. Thurman, according to Sheriff Emig, confessed that at the time a \$40,000 ransom was asked, Hart already had been murdered, according to Emig.

Both Thurman and Holmes are under arrest and will be charged (Continued on Page 5, Col. 5)

HART BOY SLAIN, HIS KIDNAPER CONFESSES

Two Trapped by Phone Call
Trying to Get Ransom
After Killing Victim

(Continued from Page 1.)

with kidnaping and murder, according to District Attorney Fred L. Thomas.

Thurman was taken into custody last night as he telephoned from a local garage to the Hart home.

He asked for the slain youth's father, Alex J. Hart, wealthy department store owner, and said he had instructions for the payment of the \$40,000 ransom.

As he and the elder Hart were in conversation, the garage number was flashed to the sheriff's office by the telephone company.

Emig rushed to the garage, pulled Thurman from the telephone, and took him to his office.

From 8 p. m. until 1 a. m. Thurman denied his guilt. Then he confessed and said his accomplice was Holmes, according to the sheriff.

Holmes was arrested immediately in a San Jose hotel. Thus far he has maintained his innocence.

But Thurman has admitted that the two kidnaped young Hart about 6 p. m. last Thursday drove to the San Mateo Hayward Bridge across San Francisco Bay and there killed their victim by crushing his skull with a brick. The sheriff's announcement asserted.

The asserted slayers then drove directly to San Francisco, where Thurman, from a telephone booth in a hotel, called the Hart residence.

He told Mr. Hart, 19-year-old sister of Brooks, Mrs. Clara Clara University graduate and vice president of his father's store, that Brooks had been kidnaped and that \$40,000 ransom would be demanded.

NOT RECORDED

7-375-A

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14

Mr. Nathan
Mr. Tolson
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Egan
Mr. Foxworth
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Jones
Mr. Quinn
Mr. Nease
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Nease
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Pennington

SAN JOSE, Calif.—Excited police activity followed the detention early today of two unidentified men for questioning in the kidnapping of Brooke L. Hart, 22, young college graduate missing from home since last Thursday.

Deputies hustled a man into the office of Sheriff William Emig. After questioning him, they went out and brought in a second man.

Then an auto load of police officers
 sped away on an unannounced mis-
 sion.

7-375-A

W H A 2 8

Kidnapers Demand \$40,000 for Missing California Man

San Jose, Cal., Nov. 10.—(AP)—Ransom of \$40,000 is demanded of Alexander J. Hart, wealthy merchant, for the return of his 23 year old son, Monroe Hart, the object of a state-wide hunt as a kidnapping victim.

An anonymous telephone caller said the money must be paid "if you want to see your boy alive again," but gave no instructions as to the manner of payment.

One of the most formidable kidnap hunting organizations ever called into action in northern California, was pursuing clues in the case tonight.

Department of Justice agents, the police of San Francisco and San Jose and peace officers of the entire bay district united in the hunt a few hours after the disappearance of young Hart after he left the department store in which he recently had been made a partner, with his father.

Questioned and Freed.

San Jose police picked up Tony Barakona, 23, married underworld character, for questioning, but released him after several hours of apparently fruitless examination.

San Francisco police said they had no clues, but Captain of Detectives Charles Duffie stated he had "been informed" that the abductors would be in touch with the Hart family some time today and that his force was awaiting such a development.

Search of the Calaveras dam area,

25 miles northeast of here, was made in the hope of picking up the trail of the young merchant. His motor car, its lights still burning, was found early today on a road leading to that district, in which many deserted cottages are located.

Back to Tracy Call.

The elder Hart remained silent as to the ransom demand and what the score would be. He received a telephone call from San Francisco four hours after young Hart's disappearance, demanding the ransom. The call was traced to a public booth in a large San Francisco hotel, but no one could be found who had seen its originator.

Young Hart, who recently left his studies at Santa Clara university to become junior partner of the father, was last seen departing from the store shortly before 6 p. m. yesterday. His failure to return home caused a search to be started. Later the elder Hart received the telephone call.

Associates said young Hart was of regular habits and not particularly fond of the company of girls, although occasionally he had attended college functions with Miss Jane Hammond of Sacramento, a student at San Jose State college.

The missing youth had a brother, Alexander Hart Jr., and two sisters, Elsie and Miriam, all present (Cal) himself.

Chicago Daily Tribune

NOT RECORDED

11-11-33

7-375-A

2 KIDNAPERS ADMIT THEY KILLED HART

Bay Dragged for Victim to
Complete Solution of Case;
Crowd Threatens Lynching

SAN FRANCISCO, Nov. 16 (U.S.)—In the murky waters beside the San Mateo-Hayward bridge, police of three counties were grappling tonight for the body of Brooke Hart, kidnaped and murdered San Jose youth.

Only the finding of the body remained to complete the solution of a kidnaping in which the victim was murdered within a few hours after he was taken captive and thrown into the South Bay from the bridge.

BOYS CONFESS

Complete confessions of the crime came today from the murderers, Thomas H. Thurmond, former San Jose oil station attendant, and Jack Holmes, discharged salesman for an oil company.

First, Thurmond and the Holmes admitted that they kidnaped Hart with the intention of killing him first and then endeavoring to trick the Hart family out of \$25,000 ransom.

They confessed taking young Hart out to the bridge, tying his hands with bailing wire, hitting him over the head with a brick as he screamed for help, and then throwing him into the bay.

They admitted how they had stated the ransom by letter and by telephone. It was while Thurmond was telephoning the Hart home Wednesday night that he was captured by Sheriff Emig. The bailing wire had been found and the call was traced. Thurmond led the authorities to Holmes in a San Jose hotel.

About seven today Thurmond made a statement to a committee of the board of directors of the San Jose Chamber of Commerce. He admitted that he had completely confessed to the crime.

Kidnaped Youth Bound And Thrown Into Bay

(Continued From Page One)

where grilling of Holmes was continued by Emig. San Francisco police and Fred Vetterli, Department of Justice agent. It was there that Holmes made his confession.

United States Attorney H. H. McPike announced that both men will be indicted by the federal grand jury next Tuesday under the Federal Lindbergh kidnaping law and that the indictments will be held in abeyance while the men are tried for murder in the state courts.

If by any chance they should escape conviction in the state courts, the federal government would be in a position to send them to prison for a long term.

At the spot where Hart was murdered is believed to be in Alameda county, the murder trial will probably be held at Oakland.

Thurmond admitted that they had obtained bailing wire and bricks several days in advance of the kidnaping with the deliberate purpose of murdering Hart. Thurmond declared that Holmes instigated the plot and induced him to join the scheme.

VERSIONS VARY SLIGHTLY

Holmes' version differed only in the manner of the killing. He insisted that he hit Hart on the jaw and that the youth fell on a brick and was knocked unconscious.

But Thurmond's story left no doubt in the officers' minds that his tale was the true one. Briefly, they relate the kidnaping as follows:

Young Hart was in his roadster leaving a parking station in San Jose. He was en route back to his father and sister. Holmes jumped

where Hart's car as it approached Market Street, San Jose. Holmes kept one hand in his pocket as if he concealed a pistol there. Actually, he was unarmed. He ordered Hart to drive toward Milpitas.

Thurmond, meanwhile, sped ahead in Holmes' automobile and drove to Milpitas. When he saw Hart and Holmes pass through Milpitas, Thurmond followed them out along the Evans Road to about seven miles from San Jose. There they forced Hart out of his car and into Holmes' machine. Hart's car, abandoned at that point, was found there the night of the kidnaping.

Now the kidnapers and their captive sped north through Irvington and Alvarado to the Alameda county end of the San Mateo-Hayward bridge. Thurmond said they went about half a mile along the bridge toward San Mateo, but later he and Holmes fixed a spot that was about a mile from the Alameda county shore.

There young Hart was ordered out of the car. Holmes, according to Thurmond, walked around the car so as to come up behind Hart. Before the boy knew what was happening Holmes struck him over the head with one of the bricks obtained in advance by the plotters and carried with them in the kidnap car. Holmes struck him again with the brick and he fell senseless. Then the two took out their bailing wire and tied their victim's hands behind him. Together they threw him off the bridge.

Then began the effort to negotiate for ransom.

NOT RECORDED

7-375A

10/11/33

He did not appear, so I telephoned Mr. Hart from a pay station at a parking lot in San Jose. I asked Mr. Hart why he had not kept his appointment and he told me he was lost further proof that we were holding him. I then told Mr. Hart that I was a police officer.

We advised Mr. Hart that there had been some confusion and too much publicity, but if he was willing to go through with negotiations and pay \$10,000 he was to put the numeral 2 in his window.

"At 3:35 on November 13 I met Holmes by a garage and he told me that the numeral had been placed in the window. We then decided to telephone Hart again, and at about 7:12 that night we drove the car in the vicinity of the Montgomery Hotel and 4 Holmes.

through a phone call. We then drove to a drug store and left again. We then went to Sabers Brothers' Garage on South Market and I phoned from a pay phone in the rear of the garage. I told Hart I had seen the number in the window and that Mr. Hart or some member of his family should drive the car and go at once. I told Hart I wanted his answer definitely 'yes' or 'no.'

"I told Mr. Hart that the driver of the car would be told where he could pick up Brooke Hart as soon as he delivered the money. I told Mr. Hart I was one of the boys who wrote the letter on November 13. I also told Mr. Hart I had received the money."

"About the time I finished this call I was taken into custody by Sheriff Emig. Signed Thomas Thurmond."

Attorney General Hugh A. Cummings yesterday announced the arrest of Thomas H. Thurmond and John M. Holmes, San Jose, Calif., for the murder of Hart and for complicity in attempts to obtain ransom money. He said Thurmond had confessed fully to Bureau of Investigation agents and had implicated Holmes.

"While this affair is a Federal case in that the mails were used, in view of the more serious charge of murder which will be lodged against them."

"The Attorney General said Police Chief Black of San Jose, Sheriff King of San Jose County and Police Chief Quinn of San Francisco gave 'excellent cooperation and assistance to the Federal authorities.'" Mr. Cummings said.

then stood up on the San Francisco waterfront. **Pickup Probe** Alex J. Hart, the father, followed when he found his son had been killed. Max Blum, a personal friend, broke the news to him. "Alex," said Blum, "your boy is dead."

Mrs. Hart, who was operated on not many weeks ago, was reported in a precarious condition at her home and under the care of physicians. The younger brother and sister of the slain youth also were prostrated.

Thurmond's confession follows in part:

"I, Harold Thurmond, voluntarily make this statement to R. E. Vetterli, Harold Anderson, of the United States Department of Justice and to Sheriff William J. Hamilton that I have known Jack Holmes approximately one year. He recently approached me with a plan to kidnap Brooke Hart and hold him for ransom."

"Thursday, November 9, shortly before 6 o'clock, Holmes and I saw Brooke Hart come to a parking lot. Holmes and I had previously planned just how we would kidnap Hart."

"Holmes was to get in the car of Brooke Hart, as it approached Market street and I was to follow in another car which belonged to Holmes. Brooke Hart obtained his car from the lot and drove out the driveway toward Market street."

Kidnaped in Own Car

Jack Holmes met the car at the curb and forced Hart to get away with him. According to directions, I followed the car, in Holmes' coach, which had been parked on Market street."

"As soon as I saw him pass the car I proceeded to Millitas and waited for them at the Spangler Garage. Shortly thereafter Holmes and Hart drove by and I followed the car about 7 miles from San Jose."

"When Holmes stopped they both got out and Holmes told Hart to get in the back of the car I was driving."

"We stopped half a mile from the bridge Hart was ordered out of the car and Holmes hit him with a brick which I had."

Continued on Page 2, Column 1

Two Kidnappers Admit Murder Of Hart Youth

William Tied and Thrown
Alive Into Bay, Ills.
Abductors State.

Continued from Page 1.

obtained in San Jose before we parted.

"Then Holmes first struck Hart, he tried to help, but Holmes hit him again and knocked him unconscious.

"Then I took some belts and around the arms of Brooks Hart around his body.

"We lifted him on to the railing of the bridge and tossed him into the bay. I recall as we lifted him he struggled slightly.

"While we were riding in the car with Hart, we asked him to turn over his money, which he did. His wallet contained a \$5 bill and \$2.50 in silver. We divided the money and I kept the wallet.

"I went to the Williams Hotel and phoned to the Hart residence in San Jose. Some man answered and I inquired for Mr. Hart. Then he answered and I told her that her brother was being held for \$50,000 ransom, and if the family would the police they would never see Brooks Hart again.

"I had obtained an envelope at home and when I got to Tracy as ransom to \$50,000. I was a friend of Mr. Hart and a card from Sacramento that night.

"I remained in Sacramento a few minutes, got a bite to eat and returned to San Jose.

"I left San Jose about 11 in the morning with a second letter and drove to San Francisco and mailed it.

"I did not see Holmes until the following day. We went to Hart's store Tuesday and saw the man in the window he ordered. The man I called Charles O'Brien, Jr., and gave Mr. O'Brien a message to deliver to Mr. Hart demanding further action.

Father Failed to Appear.

"This call was placed by Holmes from a pay station in a building in which Mr. Hart was to take a check with the \$50,000 and place it on the next day and drive it.

Two Confess Tossing Hart Alive in Bay

Mob Forces Removal of
Admitted Kidnappers
to San Francisco.

Slain Prior to Demands
for \$40,000 Ransom
From Father.

San Jose, Calif., Nov. 25.—Two men who admitted they kidnapped and killed Brooks Hart, were arrested, without payment of ransom, today by police.

"While we were riding in the car with Hart, we asked him to turn over his money, which he did. His wallet contained a \$5 bill and \$2.50 in silver. We divided the money and I kept the wallet.

"I went to the Williams Hotel and phoned to the Hart residence in San Jose. Some man answered and I inquired for Mr. Hart. Then he answered and I told her that her brother was being held for \$50,000 ransom, and if the family would the police they would never see Brooks Hart again.

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Father Failed to Appear.

"This call was placed by Holmes from a pay station in a building in which Mr. Hart was to take a check with the \$50,000 and place it on the next day and drive it.



NOT RECORDED

7-375 A



EVENING STAR WASH. DC. *hm*
 11-17-1933

Mr. Nathan	_____
Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Clegg	_____
Mr. Glavin	_____
Mr. Ladd	_____
Mr. Nichols	_____
Mr. Quinn	_____
Mr. Lester	_____
Mr. Locke	_____

The San Jose Atrocity

For sheer diabolism, the kidnaping and murder of young Brooks Hart at San Jose, Calif., last week, yesterday solved by the confession of his captors and slayers, has no parallel in American crime records. Two young men conceived the plan of abducting the youth for ransom and within an hour after taking him had mortally wounded him and thrown his bound body from a bridge. They then opened negotiations by telephone with his father for his return upon payment of \$40,000. Trapped by an ingenious tapping of the telephone lines by Federal operatives who had been summoned for the investigation, these men have confessed and acknowledged that they had no intention of restoring their hostage, but had slain him because, as one of them said, they didn't want to bother with keeping him around the countryside and we didn't want to take the chance of his escaping and giving us away.

Their young men were not of the criminal class. They were members of good families and had no records of misbehavior. They conceived the plan of kidnaping as a way to make money. Strongly enough, they seem to have

been dissuaded by their parents' sternness or recent capture, but they were not deterred by the successful pursuit of gangsters of experience and criminal ability who have lately been imprisoned. The capture and conviction of these men, with virtual assurance of their prompt conviction and execution for murder, for which the highest credit should be given to the Federal operative, should be a further deterrent to kidnaping for ransom in this country, which in the past few years has been one of the most serious handicaps to American civilization and the efficacy of the law.

*Please return
 to Mr. B. A. ...*

41

NOT RECORDED

7-375-A

He

GIRL PORTRAYS HART KIDNAPER AS A DON JUAN

Asserts Holmes Asked Her to
Leave Husband and Elope;
Search Still Seeks Victim

SAN FRANCISCO, Nov. 18 (U. S.).—An attractive young San Jose woman, a high school sweet heart of John Holmes, one of the confessed abductors and slayers of Brock L. Hart, revealed today that Holmes recently asked her to leave her husband and elope with him.

The statement was made by Mrs. Gertrude Estensen, 24, a next-door neighbor of Holmes, and was one of the outstanding developments of the day as prosecuting officials continued their efforts to complete the kidnap-murder case against Holmes and his confessed accomplice, Thomas H. Thurnwald.

In addition to the revelation that Mrs. Estensen was the "mystery woman" in the case, developments today included the following:

1.—Spurred to renewed efforts by the finding of a concrete block and coil of wire near the Alameda shore, officials pressed their search for young Hart's body and for the gun which Thurnwald and Holmes say they used in the abduction. They have no statements admitting that they stuffed the boy's head in a pillow case, threw him over the bridge rail into the water, and then slipped his married coat over with photo from the robbery.

2.—A new possibility that Thurnwald and Holmes may have had an accomplice in their crime was seen in a report that the pair were observed last Monday, about the time the last ransom note was written, in company with a white-haired old woman, apparently writing a note.

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Jones
Mr. Quinn
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

NOT RECORDED

7-375-A

W.H. D. 10-11-33
11/19/33

WASHINGTON D.C. STAR - November 18 1933. x 10 7/10 112

WOMAN IS QUIZZED IN HART KIDNAPING

Dragging for Body Continued.
San Francisco Crowd
Shouts "Lynch Him."

By the Associated Press
SAN FRANCISCO, November 18.—
Dragging for the body of Brooke L.
Hart, 32, in San Francisco Bay, near
the spot where kidnappers allegedly
buried him from a boat, was carried
on with reserved hopes today.

A cement block and a coil of wire
were brought to the surface by grap-
pling hooks. Hart vanished down with
blocks similar to the one found, was
thrown from the bridge several hundred
feet from where the cement and wire
were tossed into the water, according
to James M. Thomson and Thomas H.
Thurmond, who authorities said, con-
fessed the kidnaping and slaying.

Cries of "lynch him" were shouted by
persons in a crowd gathered outside
San Francisco Department of Justice
headquarters at Thurmond, who had
been taken there for questioning, was
brought out to be returned to the prison
last night.

Despite the cries, police easily cleared
a path through the crowd and Thur-
mond was hustled into an automobile
and driven away.

A woman, identified as an acquaint-
ance of Thomson, was questioned by
Sheriff William Egan of San Jose. Egan
said he believed Thomson and his wife
had separated recently because of an-
other woman. The officer said he did
not believe and was about the two men
was directly involved in the crime.

Under the new California law, death
or life imprisonment are mandatory in
cases where an abduction victim re-
ceives bodily harm.

NOT RECORDED

7-375-A

W.F.D. 11/18/33

WASHINGTON D.C. TIMES - November 19 1933

Slayer of Hart 'Never Missed' Sunday School

SAN JOSE, Cal., Nov. 18. (U.P.)—Thomas Thurmond, one of the confessed kidnaper slayers of Brooks Hart, went to church last Sunday and when the pastor called upon his congregation members to arise in silent prayer for the safe return of young Hart, Thurmond bowed his head in ostensible prayer along with the rest.

His father, Thurmond's mother said today, "My boy was raised a Christian in a Christian household. He never was in trouble before. He was a good boy and never missed Sunday school or church. This is almost unbelievable. I can't say more until I know something more than that in the paper."

Mr. Nathan	
Mr. Tolson	
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Glavin	
Mr. Ladd	
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tracy	
Mr. Carson	
Mr. Egan	
Mr. Gurnea	
Mr. Hendon	
Mr. Jones	
Mr. Quinn	
Mr. Nease	
Miss Gandy	

NOT RECORDED

7-375-A

W. H. R. [Signature]

WASHINGTON P.C. FIELD - November 27, 1932

BAY YIELDS HAT WORN BY HART

SAN JOSE, CALIF., Nov. 19 (U.P.)—The hat Brocke L. Hart, 72, wore when he was kidnaped November 9, was found today in San Francisco Bay, near the San Mateo Hayward Bridge.

The hat was convincing evidence that Thomas H. Thurmond and J. M. Holmes did not lie when they confessed they kidnaped the Santa Clara University graduate, beat him, bound him with wire and fixed weights to his feet, then tossed him "still struggling" into the bay.

HAT IDENTIFIED

Sheriff William Emig took the hat to Alex. J. Hart, rich department store owner, who positively identified it as the one his son wore when he disappeared.

The hat was picked up several hundred yards from the place on the bridge from which Hart was believed to have been thrown.

Two cement blocks and a coil of balling wire already have been dragged from the bottom of the bay. Thurmond said Holmes probably threw them overboard after other blocks had been used in weighting Hart's feet. Thurmond said Holmes struck the youth on the head with one of the blocks.

DIVERS AT SCENE

Two divers, and police and Coast Guard boats with grappling irons were spurred to new efforts by finding of the hat. The father of the slain youth reportedly was willing to pay \$1,000 reward to the man who finds Brocke's body.

(NOT RECORDED)

Hart Hat Found At Death Scene; Alibi Blocked

WASHINGTON D.C. POST - November

1933.

Woman Tells of Visit From Prisoner Day After Deed.

San Jose, Calif., Nov. 19 (P.)—Pressing the search for the body of Bruce Hart, victim of a kidnap plot to obtain \$40,000, authorities today found his hat on the Alameda County side of San Francisco Bay. The hat, identified by Deputy Sheriff John Moore, was found north of the San Mateo Bridge, from which the two men held Thomas H. Thurmond and Jack Holmes, have allegedly confessed they threw young Hart after he had been stunned by blows.

Two investigators for the Alameda County District Attorney's office, George Henningsen and Joseph Brandon, found the hat.

Inside the hatband was the name of the San Jose department store operated by young Hart and his father, Alex J. Hart.

Continue to Drag Bay

Meanwhile police continued their operations of dragging the Bay with grappling hooks in an endeavor to recover the body weighted with concrete blocks. Before it was thrown from the bridge, was heard after Hart was kidnaped as he drove his roadster from a parking lot here November 8.

Four security guards were made to get the father to pay the \$40,000. Last Wednesday night Thurmond was released as he was talking over a telephone to the older Hart and a few hours later Holmes was arrested at a hotel.

Sheriff Emig revealed he had questioned Mrs. H. M. Gum, attractive young San Jose matron, regarding her friendship with Thurmond. Emig said the accused man admitted "unrequited love" for Mrs. Gum made him "go off his nut" when she married another man a year ago.

Tried to Fix Alibi

The sheriff said Mrs. Gum admitted she had seen Thurmond the day before and the day following young Hart's kidnaping, and that he had attempted to persuade her to furnish him an alibi. Mrs. Gum refused to offer any aid, the sheriff decided. She did not know the nature of the super-

stices then, she said. The hat picked up from the mud near where the Thurmond and Holmes were held, was found in the face of the body of the victim.

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Edwards
Mr. Egan
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Jones
Mr. Quinn
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

RECORDED

7-375-A

W. G. R. [Signature]

Ransom Set At \$40,000 In S. F. Call

Brooke Hart, Son of
Leading Merchant, Dis-
appears After
Business

Father Telephoned by
Abductors From Ho-
tel Whitcomb

Brooke Hart, 22-year-old son of one of San Jose's wealthiest merchants, was being sought last night as the victim of a \$40,000 kidnapping plot.

The youth, son of Alexander J. Hart, and a partner with his father of the Hart Department Store, disappeared shortly after he left the company's place of business about 5 o'clock yesterday afternoon.

DAD GETS PHONE CALL

Shortly after 11 o'clock last night Hart senior received a telephone call demanding \$40,000 for the safe return of his son.

The call was traced to a telephone pay booth in the Whitcomb Hotel here. Police hastened to the hotel, but could find no trace of the kidnappers.

Hart told police a man's voice on the phone after demanding \$40,000 said further instructions would be forthcoming on the morrow.

CALLER HANGS UP

Immediately after their brief conversation, the party on the other end of the line hung up.

Hart commented with the police, "For a time every effort was made by police to eliminate the name of young Hart's disappearance."

Meanwhile police throughout the Bay area were informed that a widespread hunt.

In San Francisco, road blocks were placed through the streets, and all highways leading in and out of the city were searched.

Police at first denied a demand for ransom had been made. Later they admitted it.

Searches of employees of the big department stores, including the store of a block at Market and Santa Clara streets, were suspended when the hunt by the distracted father. Police in the meantime guarded the point where Hart's home, 1114 The Alameda, where reside the youth's mother and six other children.

Members of the family were kept apart about discussing the case. It was said Mrs. Hart was near prostration.

San Jose Police Department is now searching for the youth.

Rich San Jose Man Kidnaped

(Continued From Page 1)
could name from the fact that they joined in with a man.

Many of them took out their cars and patrolled the highways.

The youth drove away from the store in his own Studebaker roadster, bearing the license number, 5-11-1091.

Belief the youth was driven here in the car was expressed when the ransom demand call was traced to the Hotel Whitcomb.

CAR NOT SEEN

At the hotel here no employees remembered having seen the car and could not recall any employee appearing outside using a telephone booth there.

The Hart family is rated one of the wealthiest in San Jose.

Hart Sr. is a stockholder in various hotels and other enterprises.

Police said when young Hart failed to appear for dinner at 7 a particular anxiety was felt. As the word on members of the family concluded he had another engagement, but they waited for word from him to vain.

And then came the telephone message.

"Your son is kidnaped. We will want \$40,000 for his safe return. You will receive further instructions in the morning."

From the attitude of the police it was believed that the kidnappers had demanded money. The police department tried its best to observe secrecy but the news leaked out and then there was nothing to do but admit it.

NOT RECORDED

7-375-A

[Handwritten signature]

The vessel was in the hands of the Navy, and a pactant with the Navy of the Navy Department. The ship appeared shortly after her first appearance in the harbor of the Navy Department. The ship appeared shortly after her first appearance in the harbor of the Navy Department.

showing a lot of interest in the
Hart matter received a telephone
call demanding \$50,000 for the
return of the boy.

The said was traced to a man
known first, living in the Williamsburg
Hotel Room. Public returned to the
hotel, but could find no trace of
the defendant.

that will produce a new & more
 the players along domestic side
 and playing, introducing "with
 the network.
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CHINA MARKET

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on receipt of the telephone message, but on had another telephone call from him in they called for him from him to
vain.
And then came the telephone message.
"Your son is kidnapped. We will want \$50,000 for his safe return. You will receive further instructions in the morning."
From the attitude of the police it was believed that the kidnappers had distinguished intent. The Police Department tried its best to ensure money but the money passed out and then there was nothing to do but admit it.

NOT RECORDED

7-375-A

San Francisco "Chronicle", dated 11/10/33.

Re: UNKNOWN SUBJECTS
BROCKE HART - Victim.
Kidnaping.

Police Seek Scion of San Jose Family

Brooke Hart, Wealthy
Merchant's Son, Van-
ishes After Busi-
ness Hours

Brooke Hart, 22-year-old son of one of San Jose's wealthiest merchants, was being sought last night as the victim of a kidnaping plot. The youth, son of Alexander J. Hart, and a partner with his father of the Hart Department Store, disappeared shortly after he left the company's place of business about 8 o'clock yesterday afternoon.

POLICE ADMIT KIDNAPING

Police admitted the youth had been kidnaped.

A few hours later it was learned the kidnapers had been traced to San Francisco, but here the event had been had.

The Federal Department of Justice was notified and agents from San Francisco and other key points were cooperating with police in the search.

Meanwhile police throughout the Bay area were impressed into a widespread hunt.

FIND ABANDONED CAR

Young Hart's car was found abandoned after 1 o'clock this morning a mile and a half east of Milpitas on the Evans road.

Police said when young Hart failed to appear for dinner at 7 no particular anxiety was felt. As time went on members of the family concluded he had another engagement, but they waited for word from him in vain.

The police department tried to

Rich San Jose Man Kidnaped

(Continued from Page 1)
youth came from the father they joined in with a will.

Many of them took out their cars and patrolled the highways.

The youth drove away from the store in his own Studebaker roadster, bearing the license number 8-17-1041.

The Hart family is rated one of the wealthiest in San Jose. Hart Sr. is a stockholder in various hotels and other interests.

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Jones
Mr. Mumford
Mr. Quinn
Mr. Nease
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Starnes
Mr. Tamm
Mr. Telford
Mr. Winterrowd
Tele. Room
Mr. Holloman
Miss Gandy

RECORDED

the airplane had been traced to San Francisco, but here the search had been fruitless.

The Federal Department of Justice was notified and agents from San Francisco and other headquarters were cooperating with police in the search.

Meanwhile police throughout the Bay area were uncovering this widespread hunt.

FIND ABANDONED CAR

Young Hart's car was found abandoned after 1 o'clock this morning a mile and a half east of Alhambra on the Fresno road.

Police said when young Hart failed to appear for dinner at 7:30 p.m. last evening, his father, who was a member of the family, concluded he had another escapade, but they waited for word from him in vain.

The police department tried to find the car by driving the streets but to no avail. The car was found on the Fresno road.

Officers told of what was being to have been a previous attempt to kidnap the boy.

Three weeks ago three men in a large car tried to crowd Bruck's automobile to the curb. Unbeknownst to them they followed him for several blocks until he outdistanced them in his speeding car.

POLICE ACTIVE HERE

In San Francisco agents can be seen through the streets watching all highways leading to and from the city.

Members of the family were heartily about discussing the case. It was said Mrs. Hart was most protective.

Some of employees of the big department store, which occupies nearly a block at Market and Pacific streets, were surprised to see the hunt by the detective father, Police in the meantime, searched the public Hart home, 1115 The Alameda, where reside the youth's mother and his three sisters.

POPULAR IN SOCIETY

Young Hart, popular in society circles of San Jose and nearby cities, was only recently made a partner of the firm by his father. He was well liked by employees of the big department store and when the news came that they did in search of the

Continued on Page 2, Col. 2

NOT RECORDED

7-275-A

WASHINGTON D.C. NEWS - November 13, 1933

THE WASHINGTON DAILY NEWS - SATURDAY - NOV 13, 1933

Concrete Blocks Used in Hart

Confessed Kidnapers Threatened by Mob That Urges Lynching

NUMBER 18—1933

Murder Are Found

Two Persons Tell Police That
They Heard Cries for Help on
Bridge Night of Slaying

SAN JOSE.—Removal of two concrete blocks from the lower San Francisco Bay furnished the first definite clue today in the case of the body of Burke Hart, 22, kidnapping victim who was slain and thrown into the water, according to his two abductors.

As additional details of the case became known, threat of mob violence grew in San Francisco, where Thomas H. Thurmond and J. M. Holmes, who confessed kidnapping young Hart, were held for safe-keeping.

'LYNCH HIM'

The two were taken from the city jail to the Department of Justice headquarters for questioning. Holmes was returned without incident, but when Thurmond was removed to an auto, a crowd had gathered.

Police showed thru and scattered cries of "lynch him" failed to inspire action.

The concrete blocks, each weighing 22 pounds, were used by the kidnapers to weight the body of their victim, according to their confessions. Authorities prepared indictments on which they hoped to send the pair to the gallows.

The searchers who brought the heavy objects from the bay said their earlier efforts had uncovered a turn

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Clegg	_____
Mr. Glavin	_____
Mr. Ladd	_____
Mr. Nichols	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Tracy	_____
Mr. Carson	_____
Mr. Egan	_____
Mr. Gurnea	_____
Mr. Hendon	_____
Mr. Jones	_____
Mr. Quinn	_____
Mr. Nease	_____
Mr. Gandy	_____

WEIGHT THAT DROWNED HART FOUND

MUD GIVES UP CLUE TO BODY OF YOUTH

**San Jose (Cal.) Prosecutor
Promises to Hang Two
Confessed Kidnapers**

SAN FRANCISCO, Nov. 8 (I.N.S.).—Search for the body of Bishop Hart, 20-year-old murdered kidnap victim, who was thrown by his abductors into San Francisco Bay from the San Mateo Bridge, centered today at a polar three-quarters of a mile from the Alameda county shore, when evidence was discovered which was expected to lead momentarily to the finding of the body.

Police, patrolling the waters with grappling hooks, discovered a concrete block and a coil of wire identical with the material used to bind and weigh Hart before he was thrown from the bridge.

Both the block and wire were half buried in the mud. They corresponded to the material described by the kidnappers in their communications.

Prosecutor Promises To Hang Kidnappers

SAW JOSE. Cal., Nov. 18
 (I.N.S.)—There must be no
 slip-up in the case against the
 confessed murderers and kid-
 nappers of "Brooks Hart."

With this declaration, District Attorney Fred Thomas of Santa Clara county has ordered today

WEIGHT FOUND IN HART HUNT

(Continued from Page 5)

from every person with tangible knowledge of the brutal slaying. He said:

"We have the signed confessions of Jack Holmes and Thomas Thurmond that they bound their victim with balling wire and shot several times at him after throwing him from the San Francisco bridge into lower San Francisco Bay.

"But we must have corroboration."

and my wife after the war

awarded D. S. M.

[illegible]

1944

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SECRET

ing, despite the fact that the San Jose county jail was ringed with reporters, cameramen and curious citizens, the men were smuggled out under heavy guard, placed in machines and brought to San Francisco, arriving shortly before noon.

On the way up the peninsula the party halted at the San Mateo Bay bridge, where Thompson witnessed one of the arresting officers the spot where young Mart's body had been hurled over the rails into the waters of the bay.

The kidnapping of Mart faces the death penalty under the California State law and fine and imprisonment under the Federal law.

The California legislature at its last session passed a law providing the death penalty in kidnappings with ransom demands or where violence is offered the victim.

ADMITS KIDNAPPING,

SLAYING

WITHIN HOUR

**HART ABDUCTORS
SPIRITED AWAY
AS MOB GATHERS**

*Phil. Conquire
11-17-33*

**SUSPECT SEIZED
AT PHONE AS HE
DEMANDS \$40,000**

Confesses He and Companion Abducted Son
of Wealthy San Jose, Cal., Merchant, Beat
Him Unconscious With Brick, Then Hurlled
His Body Into Bay From Bridge

NOT RECORDED

SAN JOSE, Calif. (AP) — Thomas Martin, 27, of the San Mateo Bridge, attended church services here last night and entered a prayer for the safe return of missing plane.

"I feel the committee has been fair and that they can be satisfied with the President's statement of his views upon this," said the President.

7-375A-104R8

Woman Hunt Begun in Hart Murder Case

Auto License Traced
for Clue to Notes;
Two Sought.

Kidnap Car Seen, Cries
From Bay Heard
Night of Crime.

San Francisco, Nov. 11.—Orders to "find the woman" in the abduction of Brooke Hart, 22, were issued by Sheriff William J. Emig of San Jose today as officers obtained evidence apparently substantiating the purported confession of two men that they abducted and killed the youth.

The woman single developed, Emig said, when Wesley Weaver, of Campbell, Calif., reported he had seen a woman and a gray-haired man helping two other men write a mysterious note last Monday.

The sheriff said he was working on the theory that the woman had some connection with John Holmes, who, with Thomas Harold Thurmond, allegedly confessed the abduction and slaying of the son of Alex J. Hart, wealthy merchant.

Domestic Quarrel Cited

Emig expressed the belief a woman had recently caused a quarrel between Holmes and his wife, leading Holmes to move to a San Jose hotel.

The sheriff told the Campbell youth's suspicions were aroused and he took the number of the gray-haired man's car.

Det. E. V. Kelly, in charge of the San Jose division of the Department of Justice, Bureau of Investigation, made public the three ransom notations of the elder Hart.

"Your son is OK and treated well," said one dated November 14. "One more payoff will be his death."

The second, mailed November 11 from San Francisco, gave directions for the payment of the ransom.

The third, November 11, demanded immediate payment and said: "Killing him is the easy way, with this note he is."

Cries from Bay Heard

A police report of cries coming from the waters about San Mateo bridge the night of November 8 partially substantiated the alleged confession of Thurmond and Holmes that they kidnapped, beat and bound Hart, and threw him into the bay.

The report from Hayward, near the eastern end of the span, was sent to J. M. Black, chief of police of San Jose, and amplified in a letter from the wife of one of two men who heard the cries.

The story came to officers while four boats were dragging the water about the bridge in search of the body and while Thurmond and Holmes were being held in San Francisco as a precaution against mob violence in San Jose.

Each Sign Confession

In the latter city Sheriff William J. Emig's office said Holmes had made a signed confession similar to that of Thurmond made public yesterday. Holmes' alleged confession stated that Thurmond fired several shots at Hart after the youth was thrown into the bay.

The statement said Holmes gave Thurmond his gun "to cover Hart" after he had struck the boy on the head with a brick.

The Hayward police report, and the letter showed Victor Ridley and Al Coley, partners in a wood business, heard cries about 7:25 p. m., November 8, about an hour and a half after young Hart disappeared.

Car Seen at Bridge

Ridley and Coley said they were gathering driftwood along the water's edge near the bridge, saw an automobile move westward on the span, stop and turn back. They said they heard the cry, "Help! Help!" as the automobile stopped, and some one was heard to cry "Leave me alone! Leave me alone!"

After the automobile turned back, said the wood hunters, they heard the call for help repeated. They shouted that they were coming and again heard some one yell "Hurry!"

They reached the bridge and heard the voice say "I can't hold on much longer." This sound, they said, apparently came from under the bridge, about the piling. They examined the spot and found nothing but reported the incident to the Hayward police.

Wife Describes Incident

Mrs. Ridley, in a letter to Chief of Police Black today, also described the incident and added:

"The man in distress never was seen and never was heard again. His voice was terrible to hear, sending chills up and down my husband's spine. There is quite a bit more that we could tell, but do not know how to write it."

Another bit of evidence was the discovery of a piece of fabric similar to that of the shirt which young Hart was wearing.

NOT RECORDED

7-375A

W. H. B. J.

WASHINGTON D.C. STAR - November 17, 1933.

STAR, WASHINGTON.

BOATS SEARCH BAY FOR BODY OF HART

Two Said to Have Admitted
Kidnaping Youth Lost
Air of Bravado.

By the Associated Press.

SAN FRANCISCO, November 17.—Officers resumed dragging a section of San Francisco Bay today for the body of Brooke L. Hart, kidnaping victim.

Four boats searched the water near the San Mateo Bridge, south of here, at the point where Thomas H. Thurmond and John Holmes, in their alleged confession, made public yesterday, said they beat the youth into unconsciousness, bound and weighted him and threw him into the swirling currents half an hour after seeing him in San Jose November 8.

A strip of cloth corresponding to the material of the shirt which young Hart wore when he disappeared was found by the grapplers yesterday. It had attached to it what officers believed to be a piece of human flesh.

A suit held in the San Francisco Jail as a precaution against possible mob action in San Jose, scene of the abduction, Thurmond and Holmes lost the air of bravado which they had exhibited in the earlier scenes of their captivity. Officers said they would take them to the scene of the grappling in an effort to locate the body if the present search proved fruitless.

Thurmond broke down and sobbed at the City Jail "show-up" of prisoners today.

Holmes was taken by his father, Marlow Holmes, and an attorney, Ira B. Langdon of Stockton.

"I can't believe it is true," said the father. "John has always been an even-tempered, steady boy. I cannot understand it."

NOV 17 1933

7-1733-4

WCH-RS

...by police, dragging the bottom with grappling hooks for the body of Brooks Hart, murdered kidnap victim.

The piece of water-soaked cloth corresponded to that of the shirt worn by the young victim on the day of his disappearance from San Jose last Thursday.

Scores of deputy sheriffs and police trooped the bay with grappling hooks, searching for the body of the 22-year-old youth who was knocked unconscious, bound with baling wire, and then thrown from the bridge into the water by his abductors.

Kidnapers Spirited Away As Mob Threatens Jail

SAN JOSE, Cal., Nov. 17 (U.S.).—District Attorney Fred Thomas, of Santa Clara county, declared today he would invoke California's new kidnap statute, demanding the death penalty for the kidnapers and slayers of Brooks L. Hart, 22-year-old son of a wealthy department store owner.

The confessed kidnapers, Thomas Thurmond and Jack Holmes, were secretly rushed under heavy guard to the city jail in San Francisco, 50 miles north of here, when an enraged mob stormed the Santa Clara county jail, shouting "lynch them!"

Boy Dragged For Red

Thurmond made a detailed, signed confession to Department of Justice agents that young Hart was murdered a few hours after he was kidnaped. They confessed they bound Hart with baling wire and threw him from the San Mateo bridge, crossing lower San Francisco bay.

District Attorney Thomas said the new drastic kidnap statute, passed at the last session of the State legislature early this year, would be invoked because he believed a conviction would be obtained even though the body of young Hart is not recovered.

Thomas said he has several witnesses who heard young Hart cry for help as the kidnapers threw him from the bridge.

Reckless Swift Justice

Thomas' announcement eliminated the possibility that Thurmond and Holmes would be tried on a plain murder charge. He said:

"The kidnaping statute will bring swifter and surer justice."

In their confession, Thurmond

(Continued on Page 2, Col. 1.)

...for the transatlantic air route from Lisbon to New York via the Azores.

Many regarded this as indicating Colonel and Mrs. Lindbergh intended flying home, while others believed the request for meteorological charts was connected with his studies of the Atlantic air routes for Pan-American Airways. He has been conferring here with officials of British passenger lines.

Colonel Lindbergh remained silent on his plans, declining to reveal when or how he would leave Lisbon.

All Hope Abandoned For Missing Sailors

LONDON, Nov. 17 (U.S.).—Abandoning hope for the crew of the British freighter Saxibby, shipping circles today agreed the 29 seamen must have drowned after taking to their boats in mountainous seas Wednesday morning. With more than two full days having elapsed since the Saxibby's first SOS signals were heard and the men still unaided by any of several ships which reached the scene of the disaster, it was believed certain they had perished.

'S SHIRT FOUND IN

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All Hope Abandoned For Missing Sailors

LONDON, Nov. 17 (U.S.)—Abandoning hope for the crew of the British freighter *Scutby*, shipping circles today agreed the 29 seamen must have drowned after taking to their boats in mountainous seas Wednesday morning. With more than two full days having elapsed since the *Scutby's* first SOS signals were heard and the men still unaided by any of several ships which reached the scene of the disaster, it was believed certain they had perished.

demanding the death penalty for the kidnapers and slayers of Brooke L. Hart, 21-year-old son of a wealthy department store owner. The confessed kidnapers, Thomas Thurmond and Jack Holmes, were secretly rushed under heavy guard to the city jail in San Francisco, 50 miles north of here, when an enraged mob stormed the Santa Clara county jail, shouting "lynch them!"

May Dragged For Body

Thurmond made a detailed, signed confession to Department of Justice agents that young Hart was murdered a few hours after he was kidnaped. They confessed they bound Hart with baling wire and threw him from the San Mateo bridge, crossing lower San Francisco bay.

District Attorney Thomas said the new drastic kidnap statute, passed at the last session of the State legislature early this year, would be invoked because he believed a conviction would be obtained even though the body of young Hart is not recovered.

Thomas said he has several witnesses who heard young Hart cry for help as the kidnapers threw him from the bridge.

Seeks Swift Justice

Thomas' announcement eliminated the possibility that Thurmond and Holmes would be tried on a plain murder charge. He said:

"The kidnaping statute will bring swifter and surer justice."

In their confession, Thurmond

(Continued on Page 2, Col. 1.)

HART'S SHIRT FOUND IN

San Francisco Boy Drugged As 2 Kidnapers Admit Drowning Victim

SAN FRANCISCO, Nov. 17 (I.N.S.).—A piece of a man's shirt was recovered from the waters of San Francisco Bay near the San Mateo Bridge early today by police, dragging the bottom with grappling hooks for the body of Brooke Hart, murdered kidnap victim.

The piece of water-soaked cloth corresponded to that of the shirt worn by the young victim on the day of his disappearance from San Jose last Thursday.

Scores of deputy sheriffs and police trilled the bay with grappling hooks, searching for the body of the 23-year-old youth, who was knocked unconscious, bound with balling wire, and then thrown from the bridge into the water by his abductors.

Kidnapers Spirited Away As Mob Threatens Jail

SAN JOSE, Cal., Nov. 17 (I.N.S.).—District Attorney Fred Thomas, of Santa Clara county, declared today he would invoke California's new kidnap statute, demanding the death penalty for the kidnapers and slayers of Brooke L. Hart, 23-year-old son of a wealthy department store owner. The confessed kidnapers, Thomas Thurmond and Jack Holmes, were secretly rushed under heavy guard to the city jail in San Francisco, 50 miles north of here, when an enraged mob stormed the Santa Clara county jail, shouting "buck them!"

Bay Swaged For Body

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Colonel Lindbergh remained silent on his plans, declining to reveal when or how he would leave London.

All Hope Abandoned For Missing Sailors

LONDON, Nov. 17 (I.N.S.).—Abandoning hope for the crew of the British freighter *Sandby*, shipping circles today agreed the 23 seamen must have drowned after taking to their boats in mountainous seas Wednesday morning. With more than 100 days having elapsed since the sailing's last SOS signals were heard and the men still unaccounted for by any of several ships which

RECEIVED D.C. NEWS - November 17, 1933.

DAILY NEWS - FRIDAY - NOV 17

Young Hart's Body Is Sought in Bay

(Continued From Page 1)

Monday night. His parents were hounded with ransom demands, but the men confessed that they dragged a board their victim and threw his body into the bay soon after the abduction.

Search for young Hart's body continued thru the night. Powerful searchlights illuminated the area of the bridge from which, according to Thurmond's and Holmes' purported confessions, they threw the "still struggling" body of the victim.

Police prepared to spread the hunt along the shores of the bay on the possibility that the weights attached to the body might have slipped off and permitted it to float.

CAUGHT AT TELEPHONE

Only recovery of the body was needed to complete the denouement of northern California's first major kidnapping case. Sheriff William Lewis arrested Thurmond in the telephone booth of a garage here yesterday. The arrest came six days after young Hart had disappeared while en route to the San Jose Country Club to meet his father, Alex J. Hart, wealthy businessman.

Thurmond had just finished a call, demanding \$40,000 ransom of the father. He was taken to the court house and questioned for many hours. Finally he broke down and implicated Holmes, police said. The father, married and father of two children, was found at a hotel here. Max Blum, local businessman, was delegated to tell the family the tragic news.

PARENTS COLLAPSE

The father, worn and haggard by a week's senseless vigil, fainted when Blum told him that the boy, whom Hart revered as a "model son," was believed dead. The mother, under medical care since the disappearance, collapsed. The news prostrated the two sisters and the younger brother of the curly-haired victim who had become vice president of his father's department store immediately after his graduation from Santa Clara University.

The mother's condition was reported critical.

According to Sheriff Lewis, Thurmond and Holmes killed Brock Hart because of fear of detection.

Thurmond's confession, as made public here, said that Holmes suggested the kidnapping plot several weeks ago. Thurmond said he was ready to say anything because he had quarreled with his sweetheart.

AT PARKING LOT

Holmes and young Hart at a parking lot Nov. 9 and forced himself into Hart's machine by threatening with what appeared to be a gun, the confession said. Thurmond followed the machine to another car. They met at an appointed place and Hart's register was abandoned.

With Hart in the rear seat and Holmes driving, the three proceeded in the second car to the San Mateo-Hayward Bridge, 20 miles north. Midway across they stopped and Hart was ordered out of the car, the confession said.

The stories of Thurmond and Holmes differed in the most details, police said. The former claimed Holmes struck Hart with a brick, beating him on the head until he stopped yelling and dropped, unconscious. Holmes reportedly said Hart fell against a bridge girder. The unconscious form was bound with baling wire, weighed with bricks, and dropped into the water.

DEMANDED \$40,000

Thurmond came to San Francisco to make the first telephone call demanding \$40,000 ransom. Holmes remained in San Jose during the following days while Thurmond worked to Sacramento and later to San Francisco to mail new ransom demands.

Hart insisted that the abductors furnish proof his son was alive. His failure to keep an appointment led Thurmond to make the telephone call which brought the arrests. The prisoners appeared indifferent.

"It made no difference to us that Hart was dead. We still thought we could collect the \$40,000," Holmes reportedly said.

Some question of jurisdiction in the case arose due to the uncertainty of the place where the alleged slaying occurred. While Dist. Atty. Thomas of Santa Clara County was prepared to prosecute under kidnapping charges, the district attorney of the neighboring county of Alameda was said to favor a murder indictment. The bridge connects the two counties.

TO WITHHOLD ACTION

Federal Dist. Atty. H. H. McPherson also indicated he would seek indictments under 1825 Federal "Kidnaping" statute, as the U. S. marshal were used to convey ransom demands.

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WASHINGTON D.C. NEWS - November 17, 1933.

**CONFESSED MURDER
CALLS SELF 'SCREWY'**

By United Press

SAN JOSE, Calif. — Thomas Tharmond, 29, one of the two men who confessed the murder of young Brooke L. Hart, blamed his participation in the crime on a girl "who turned me down."

"That just broke me up," said Tharmond. "I've been nuts ever since. I ain't a high guy. I'm just screwy."

Mr. Nathan	_____
Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Clegg	_____
Mr. Glavin	_____
Mr. Ladd	_____
Mr. Nichols	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Tracy	_____
Mr. Carson	_____
Mr. Egan	_____
Mr. Gurnea	_____
Mr. Hendon	_____
Mr. Jones	_____
Mr. Quinn	_____
Mr. Nease	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

NOT RECORDED

7-375-A

W H R 9

KIDNAPERS KILL CALIFORNIA MAN *N.Y. SUN—11-18-35* **Brooke Hart, 22, Slain and Flung Into Bay.**

SAN JOSE, Cal., Nov. 18 (AP) — Brooke Hart, 22 years old of San Jose, was murdered by kidnapers last Thursday night. He was announced today at the Sheriff's office.

The body was recovered from San Francisco Bay, according to the announcement.

A man held in custody had confessed a part in the kidnaping, the announcement added.

Brooke Hart, described as the "model son" of Alexander J. Hart, wealthy San Jose merchant, disappeared late in the afternoon of last Thursday. He was last seen leaving his father's department store to go to a nearby parking lot to drive his parents' home.

At 10 o'clock that night the family received an anonymous telephone call and the victim's name informed Mr. Hart that they had to pay \$40,000 ransom. He was told to see your son alive tomorrow.

Young Hart was recently graduated from the University of California and became a partner in his father's business a year or so before his disappearance.

Several days after the kidnaping the family received a telephone call, which resulted in the arrest of an Oakland printer, Edward V. Poole. Poole admitted that he had made the telephone call and written

Mr. Nathan	
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Glavin	
Mr. Ladd	
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tracy	
Mr. Carson	
Mr. Egan	
Mr. Gurnea	
Mr. Hendon	
Mr. Lester	
Mr. Quinn	
Mr. Nease	
Mr. Gandy	

WASHINGTON D.C. STAR - November 17 1933

The San Jose Kidnapping

The kidnapping and murder of young Brooke Hart at San Jose, Calif., last week, yesterday solved by the confession of his captors and slayers, has no parallel in American crime records. Two young men conceived the plan of abducting the youth for ransom and within an hour after taking him had mortally wounded him and thrown his bound body from a bridge. They then opened negotiations by telephone with his father for his return upon payment of \$40,000. Trapped by an ingenious tapping of the telephone lines by Federal operatives, who had been summoned for the investigation, these men have confessed and acknowledged that they had no intention of restoring their hostage, but had slain him because, as one of them said, they "didn't want to bother with keeping him around the countryside, and we didn't want to take the chance of his running and giving us away."

These young men were not of the criminal class. They were members of good families and had no record of misbehavior. They conceived the plan of kidnapping as a way to "make money." Strangely enough, they seem to have

been schooled to their murderous enterprise by recent publicity, but they were not deterred by the successful pursuit of gangsters of experience and criminal ability who have lately been imprisoned.

The capture and confession of these men, with virtual assurance of their prompt conviction and execution for murder, for which the highest credit should be given to the Federal operative, should be a further deterrent to kidnapping for ransom, in this country, which in the past few years has been one of the most serious problems of American civilization and the efficacy of the law.

Mr. Tolson	
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Glavin	
Mr. Ladd	
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tracy	
Mr. Carson	
Mr. Egan	
Mr. Gurnea	
Mr. Hendon	
Mr. Mumford	
Mr. Quinn	
Mr. Nease	
Mr. Lester	
Miss Gandy	

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DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION
NOV 22 1933

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7-375-A

W. H. R. [Signature]

Globe-Democrat
St. LOUIS, Mo.
Nov. 11, 1933

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Jones
Mr. Quinn
Mr. Nease
Mr. Lester
Mr. Gandy

ROUNDING UP THE KIDNAPERS.

The son of Alex Hart, well-known resident of St. Louis, Mo., did not keep an appointment with his father and the next day kidnapers telephoned the father from a San Francisco hotel that they were holding the young man and wanted \$40,000 to release him.

Ransom extortions are still operating, but the industry rests under some powerful late discouragements. One of its latest bluffs is the rounding up at Chicago of a gang said to number a dozen and to have extorted a total of \$400,000 from half a dozen victims, \$120,000 from one man. Frank Souder who runs a gambling den at Benton is one. Jack Chute, sought, as is said, by federal as well as state officers for seven years, is another. Edward Wagner, Julian Jones, Edward LaRue, Dean Swolley are the names of others against whom the abduction charge is brought. As in the case of the Alton kidnaping, one of the gang was apprehended on substantial suspicion and confessed, thus, acquainting the officers with the identity of his fellow criminals.

A point to be emphasized is that all these conspirators are men of the gangster type who have led irregular lives and engaged in miscellaneous depredations, apparently with little obstruction from the law. Had justice had its due after their earlier operations, they would now be where they could not make destructive inroads on society. However it was that they escaped the terrors of the law, they were led by their immunity to keep on their course, committing crimes still bolder and still more desperate.

The breaking up of another kidnaping band called the Touhy gang must result from their trial at St. Paul for the Hamm abduction. They are indicted at Chicago as well in connection with the squeezing of \$75,000 from John Factor, called John the Barber, himself involved in an extradition proceeding in a charge of swindling abroad. When the seed of lawlessness is once permitted to be sown, increasing yields in successive crops of crime may be depended on. Much of worth underlies the laws defining enemies of society in view of the special lawless conditions that have prevailed.

While the Factor case is a recent one, it is to be noted that many abductions in which members of one or the other or both of these gangs have engaged, date back to the notorious bootlegging days of 1929 and 1931. That the worst of them have been further inactive for many months in consequence of the increased risk of kidnaping afforded ground for continuing the warfare.

7-375-A

Mr. Nathan
Mr. Tolson
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Jones
Mr. Quinn
Mr. Nease
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Starnes
Mr. Tamm
Mr. Egan
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Jones
Mr. Quinn
Mr. Nease
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Starnes
Mr. Tamm

Re: JOHN P. HOLMES
HAROLD THOMPSON
BROOKS I. HART - VICTIM.
Kidnaping.

San Francisco T-127, dated Nov. 17, 1933

Let Justice Be Swift

ONE ray of light breaks through the pall of horror thrown over the community by the kidnaping and murder of Brooks Hart—that shed by the skill and speed with which officers of the law have caught the perpetrators and forced them to confess. It is bad enough to know that such black-hearted criminality and cowardice can exist at all among us. It is worse to realize that their detection had to wait for the perpetration of a crime that has taken the life of a fine young man and bereaved his family after inflicting unspeakable mental torture upon its members. But worst of all would have been a repetition in this ghastly case of the baffling failure of justice that followed the Lindbergh tragedy.

Sheriff Emtz and his men and other officers of the Department of Justice have struck swiftly and decisively. They have put the fear of the law into the hearts of other criminals whose warped and degenerate minds may have been planning similar atrocities. Kidnaping, they have demonstrated, does not pay in this neck of the woods.

As for the guilty, the facts of the case call for swift punishment to the limit of the penalty provided, which is death. No two men will ever mount the scaffold with less sympathy from the public or with a more general feeling that justice and the ends to which society have been served.

That the murderers are not professional criminals but family men who have lived apparently normal lives up to this time only increases our horror at the deed. For it weakens the theory that such crimes are perpetrated by a definite and organized criminal class against which society can declare war. Organized gangs are bad enough, but they strike less terror than the thought that men like Thurmond and Holmes may be moving unsuspected among us.

Here is ghastly evidence of how the crime virus can spread, once the notion is permitted to get abroad among weak-minded and vicious men that criminals can get away with it. And our great indebtedness to the officers who have acted so decisively in this case is that they have dealt this theory a dramatic and telling blow.

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Way of the Kidnapers Hard and Unprofitable

KIDNAPERS have had no worse news than the President's order to the Department of Justice men to step into all kidnaping cases, and this regardless of whether Federal laws are involved. The national network is spread for all kidnapers. Whether the crime is entirely local or crosses State lines or uses or does not use the mails will make no difference. The Federal men will be in there helping the local police with all the facilities of their national system.

What the Federal men have achieved this summer in the cases the new national law has enabled them to enter makes the outlook black for kidnapers when the Department of Justice gets into all cases. The kidnapers have had a hard season. Most of this summer's operators are now either in penitentiaries or close to the gates and headed in. As a business kidnaping has run far into the red. The prospect is good for throwing it into complete bankruptcy.

Among major kidnapings the Lindbergh case is the only apparent exception. That may any day cease to be an exception to the general rule of hard going for kidnapers. The Federal men do not sleep. Even if the Lindbergh case remains unsolved the percentage is tremendously against kidnapers. They can be caught and they are caught and punished. It must be an exceedingly stupid criminal now who decides to take up kidnaping.

Stupidity stands out foremost in the two San Jose young men who murdered Brooke Hart in the hope of cheating his family out of a ransom. What they no doubt thought was daring was only dumb rashness. Their scheme did not have a chance in the face of an active and intelligent Sheriff's office and the experienced Federal men.

And now that the law has them and holds them for justice we see them as all they are—a couple of boobs each in panic anxiety to shift the blame to the other.

Not only kidnapers but the assumed heroes of crime have had a hard summer. "Machine Gun" Kelly, the well-advertised hard bad man, was added into a common craven when the test came. Certainly Thurmond and Holmes lend no glamour to crime.

NOT RECORDED

7-375-A

File

Post-Dispatch
St. Louis, Mo.
Nov. 20, 1933

Mr. Nathan
Mr. Quinn
Mr. Price
Mr. Foster
Mr. Carr
Mr. Hynes
Mr. Reed
Mr. Lester
Mr. Locke

Today

Crime Does Not Pay.
One Baby, Two Murders.
When Rascal Grows Rich.
New Idea for Ladies.

By ARTHUR BRIMMAN

MIAMI, Fla., Nov. 20

Crime does not pay. Two young men in California kidnaped a youth, 21 years old, and one found that they murdered him. After the murder, seeking to extort \$50,000, they telephoned the parent the ransom they would be 10 to 15 years away from danger to pay. They did kill him, but not with "bullet" and got "bullet" and will now to leave from California. Police here dangerous their kidnapping was.

Their to the Department of Justice and Federal Bureau of Investigation be too highly paid, and money had become a dangerous to

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7-375-A

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WASHINGTON D.C. HERALD - November

1934

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Jones
Mr. Quinn
Mr. Nease
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Nease
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Pennington

By Arthur Brisbane

Continued from page 1

MIAMI, FLA., NOV. 19.

CRIME does not pay. Two young men in California kidnaped a youth 13 years old and confess that they murdered him. After the murder, seeking to extort \$40,000, they telephoned the parents "the easiest thing would be to kill your son with little danger to us." They did kill him, but not with "little danger." Both are in jail, soon to learn from California justice how dangerous their kidnapping was.

Thanks to the Department of Justice and Secret Service, which earlier on was highly praised, kidnapping has become a dangerous business.

*Is Brisbane
"muffs one"
again*

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7-325-A

10 H R 8

THOMAS TO ASK

QUICK JUSTICE PROMISED BY PROSECUTOR

Continued From Page One

The two Oakland men said they did not hear any shots.

ADMITS SHOOTING

With the smoking revolver still in his hand, Thurmond climbed back over the railing, according to Holmes, and snatched it.

"Well, he won't believe any more. He won't come up again after that."

Holmes said Thurmond then clapped his hands together—as if shutting them off—and put the revolver, an old-fashioned .41 caliber pistol into his pocket.

The second bit of corroborating testimony was furnished by two other Oakland residents, Andrew Williams, wealthy operator of a chain store, and Mrs. Williams.

Both believed they passed by the kidnapping car on the bridge shortly after Hart's body had been thrown into the water. The couple were driving from San Mateo to the mainland side when they sighted a car of the same make as that of the kidnapping car.

Mrs. Williams said that two men were near the car. One was walking toward the rear of the machine. The other was fumbling in the back of the car.

IDENTIFY KILLER

The third strand of testimony was furnished by Tony Carvello, San Jose ornamental brick dealer.

Carvello identified a photograph of Thurmond as the man who purchased three concrete bricks from him.

"He came into my shop two weeks ago and picked up a brick and asked how much it weighed," Carvello said. "I told him 17 pounds."

Re: JOHN W. THOMAS
FACED TRIAL
BROOKS L. HART - Victim.
Kidnaping.

Mr. Nathan	_____
Mr. ...	_____
Mr. ...	_____
Mr. ...	_____
Mr. ...	_____
Mr. ...	_____
Mr. ...	_____
Mr. ...	_____
Mr. ...	_____
Mr. ...	_____

CO "CALL-BULLETIN", dated Nov. 15, 1933

THE SAN FRANCISCO CALL-BULLETIN—Saturday, Nov.

DEATH FOR

Nov. 16, 1933

First in Evening Edition

HART SLAYERS

NOT RECORDED

7-303-A

SEEK NOOSE FOR HART KILLERS

Prosecutor Thomas Plans
Quick Justice in
Santa Clara

SAN JOSE, Nov. 18 (ENB).—
"There must be no slipup in the
case against the confessed mur-
derers and kidnapers of Brooke
Hart."

With this declaration, District At-
torney Fred Thomas of Santa Clara
County issued orders today to police
to make every effort to locate every per-
son with intimate knowledge of the
brutal slaying.

"We have the signed confessions
of Jack Holmes and Ralph Thom-
son that they bound their victim
with hanging wire and shot him
down at his office throwing him
from the San Mateo bridge into
San Francisco Bay," Thomas
said.

"We must have an ar-
rest soon. There must be no
slipup."

TO PLEAD GUILTY

Thomas, with deliberate conviction
in his eyes, Thomas pounded his
fist on the desk and declared:

"These men deserve hanging,
and that's what they'll get."

While the shades of legal justice
were striking toward swift justice
and a speedy trial, preliminary hear-
ing of which probably will be fast
track under California's new kidnap
statute making abduction where
bodily harm is done a death penalty,
the grim search of lower San Fran-
cisco Bay continued for the body of
Hart.

Carrying out Thomas' orders, po-
lice obtained statements from two
officers who

gave the first set of circumstantial
testimony.

"We had just returned to the
office and there in our back a knock
came Thursday night, November 8,"
they said. "We heard the voice of
a man shouting 'There is my
car. Please stop! Help! Help!'"

"It was that too. San Mateo
bridge, about three-quarters of a
mile out to the bay, that we heard
the cry."

"We saw the police come on
the bridge, that day. It was only
a few moments later that we heard
the pleading cries for help. We
got our look out over the men, Hol-
mes and Thomason, and the body
was seen, and the body turned around
and went back."

In detail, the two officers' state-
ments dovetailed with the confes-
sions of Holmes and Thomason,
except in one instance.

Holmes declared in his confession
that Thomason jumped over the
bridge railing and leaped toward
down to the water's edge and then
fired several shots at young Hart,
etc. and dropping in the water.

Could on Page Three, Column One

FLIER THINKS HART BODY LOCATED

Kidnap Victim Declared
Seen in Bay Waters Near
Alameda Side

Urgent need for money to carry
on an ill-fated affair with a San
Jose woman caused Jack Holmes
to plot the kidnaping and murder
of young Brooke Hart, it was
learned in San Jose today.

At the same time the search for
the slain boy was started when Pilot
Charles Conley of San Carlos re-
ported to authorities he sighted what
may be Brooke Hart's body in the
water two miles south of the San
Mateo bay bridge.

LOOKS LIKE BODY

"I was flying about twenty feet
and above the water, on the
Alameda side, when I saw a
body," Conley said. "It was
about 100 feet from the shore,
two miles south of the spot where
he was supposed to have been
thrown into the bay."

Conley said he flew over the spot
three times with Tim Dayton,
New Development in the case is
that

Jack Holmes and Thomas Thom-
son, confessed kidnapers and
murders, were held incommunicado
in the city police here in San Jose
officials completed plans for a
speedy trial.

Holmes indicated to San Francisco
officials that he would plead not
guilty and repudiate his partner's
story.

The San Jose woman, admitted
lover of a girl between Holmes
and his wife, Evelyn, was to be
arrested today.

Charles Conley declared that Holmes
approached a San Jose auto dealer
and begged him to extend a pay-
ment loan for the "flying car"
used in the crime, claiming he
would "have money soon."

The North Hart mother of the slain
boy was reported yesterday in a
state of shock and grief.

Following the death of his
brother, Thomas Thomason, and
Hart was thrown into the water, ac-
cording to his body was in the
water. The mother, mother-in-law
and sister of the slain boy were
in the city today and were
being comforted by friends.

The police department is
working hard to locate the body
of the slain boy. The mother
of the slain boy is in the city
today and is being comforted by
friends.

PLANE GETS HART

BODY CLUE

SISTER PLANS FOR FUTURE

Tuesday went twice in the circle frequented by Brooks Hart, San Jose kidnap-murder victim. It had been revealed today.

Young Hart's closest friend, Jerome Downing, who had been married but a few months, was killed recently by a fall from a horse. Hart was with him at the time and was a pallbearer at the funeral.

Young Downing, his bride, Brooks Hart and his adored sister, Miriam, planned a four-day tour to attend the St. Mary's Santa Clara game tomorrow. Miriam Hart had disclosed today, Miriam wouldn't around the big home and plans for the future now, she said today.

"I'm going to try to take Brooks's place in the school," she said. "I haven't the education he had, but I'm not going back to school. My father will send me there, and I want to be with him."

"Alone? She'll probably stay here with mother. I don't think she'll go back to school either."

"Jane's a darling. Jane (Hans) was a friend of Brooks Hart's. We're lucky that she's here. She's to graduate from college this June and we've been trying to persuade her to go back and finish her course. I don't know what we would have done without her, and without the Cohen's. There've all three stayed here in the home and been more comfort than I can say."

"Brooks was a pallbearer for Jerome. He was riding with him when he was killed. The family and their friends had lunch at the Downing place after the funeral. They tried to make a part of a party of it. Jerome had said that was what he wanted. If anything ever happened to him, and when Brooks came home he told me just he felt the same way."

"Mother's up and around, but I don't think she knows what has happened. She's been so sick and worried, and the shock was so heavy. The doctor told me to let her cry and talk about it as much as she likes—that she'd get it out of her system that way—and it will be a long time before she can bear to remembrance. She won't even stay in her room. It's hard on Brooks."

SORRY FOR FAMILY

"What is the Holmes' family like?" she asked. "I'm sure he's terrible for them. He has only beautiful memories of Brooks—he never brought sorrow to me, and we know she went out like a gentle man. I'm sorry for them. We never had to be ashamed for our brother."

"But it doesn't really matter what they did with him. I hope there will be punishment. I hope that that girl who killed him, Alvin, that I will see her back home with father. Brooks would have wanted to see her. But we know it can't be done."

- Victim.

San Francisco

ed Nov. 18, 1933

HGT RECORDED

7-375-A

Re: JOHN M. HOLMES
 MARCEL THURMOND
 MICHAEL L. HART - Victim.
 Kidnaping.

San Francisco "CALL-BULLETIN", dated Nov. 18, 1933

FIND WOMAN IN HART CASE

Continued From Page One

That had to find Hart before he was struck on the head with a brick. Sheriff King was informed by Thurmond that the block and the were had been carried by him and Holmes at "spare." But they were found in the mud at almost the same spot, where Thurmond said murder was made.

The block was found by Inspectors Walter Donahoe and James McConnell of San Francisco and turned over to Sheriff King. They said it was clearly visible in the mud at low tide.

The mystery woman in the case has already been questioned, Sheriff King said. Her name is known and she is said to have admitted Holmes was "every" about her.

Holmes, investigators learned, was anxious to obtain a divorce and marry this woman, but lacked the necessary funds.

Meanwhile, as Sheriff King and Inspectors King and McConnell were not about gathering the scattered pieces of the puzzle, the two kidnapers were kept in the city prison as public indignation mounted in San Francisco. Extraordinary precautions were taken to prevent such violence.

LYNCH THREAT

While Thurmond and Holmes were being grilled in the offices of investigation at 925 Market street last night, a crowd gathered, and some of them shouted, "Lynch them! Lynch them!"

During the questioning, Thurmond again admitted the crime had been planned for ten days before it was carried out. It was their intention, he said, to kill Hart at once and collect the ransom money afterward.

Holmes was strangely silent, as he talked to Inspector George Foss. "Do you think I could sleep as soundly as I do if I did this thing?" he said.

Thurmond revealed that Hart was also struck with the butt of a gun before being thrown into the bay.

"He gurgled as he hit the water," he said. "Holmes fired once shot and then I asked for the gun. I fired three more shots at him as he sank."

NOT RECORDED

7-375-A

SON LEASTRAY SAYS MOTHER

A young man, a Christian who refused to believe his boy capable of such a crime today said his mother was the first to cry out for justice. He said his mother's fall into the hands of police. The woman was Mrs. Henry Thomas, mother of Harold Thomas, confessed co-murderer of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Thomas was last seen by his mother shortly before he was shot. He could not have thought of this terrible thing about his God-fearing, Christian son, and was not aware of Jack Ruby's role in the killing.

Thomas said he never had thought of this in his life. He said he had been around his son, Harold, since he was a boy. He said he had never thought of this in his life. He said he had been around his son, Harold, since he was a boy.

Over the years, Thomas said she finds the statements were God-fearing, Christian, and had thought of this in his life. He said he had been around his son, Harold, since he was a boy.

Thomas said he never had thought of this in his life. He said he had been around his son, Harold, since he was a boy. He said he had never thought of this in his life.

See

Oct. 18, 1955

NOT RECORDED

7-375-A

Mr. Nathan	
Mr. Tolson	
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Glavin	
Mr. Ladd	
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tracy	
Mr. Carson	
Mr. Egan	
Mr. Gurnea	
Mr. Hendon	
Mr. Pennington	
Mr. Quinn	
Mr. Nease	
Miss Gandy	

Kennedy wound up a busy
Yours truly,
W. J. McGowan

HART KIDNAPING RANSOM READY

SAN FRANCISCO, Nov. 11.—
 The Hart family issued a plea to-
 night to the kidnapers of Brooks
 Hart to contact them immediately,
 offering to negotiate for his re-
 turn and leaving the choice of in-
 termediaries to the kidnapers.
 The appeal read:
 "We are anxious for the re-
 turn of our son Brooks. We de-
 sire to negotiate for his return
 personally, or through any in-
 termediary who might be se-
 lected. When contact is made,
 we will of course want evidence
 to prove that Brooks is held by
 you."
 "All negotiations will be con-
 sidered confidential by us and
 we will allow no leaks—none
 from any outside source."
 It was a short note.

Mr. Nathan	
Mr. Tolson	
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Glavin	
Mr. Ladd	
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tracy	
Mr. Carson	
Mr. Egan	
Mr. Gurnea	
Mr. Hendon	
Mr. Pennington	
Mr. Quinn	
Mr. Nease	
Miss Gandy	

WASHINGTON C.C. STAR - November 22, 1933

WOMAN GIVES CLUE IN HART KIDNAPING

Starts Police on Hunt for Three
Others With Story of Visit
to Ranch.

By the Associated Press.

SAN JOSE, Calif., November 22.—The story of a rancher's wife and police and Federal authorities on a search today for three additional participants in the kidnaping and slaying of Bruce Hart, son of a wealthy merchant, to which two men already suspected have confessed.

The woman, Mrs. D. Silver, told Federal authorities a story of over-hearing a conversation near the barn of her ranch at Hayward, south of here.

The night of Hart's disappearance, November 9, she said, a rancher, followed by a sedan, stopped near the barn and she heard a man on the running board of the sedan order a young man to get in the other machine.

Then the sedan started away with the lights all out, and one man drove away in the "roadster," Mrs. Silver said. "I am sure there were four men in the sedan, in addition to the man transferred from the roadster."

Locations mentioned in the story coincide with the events as related in the confessions of Thomas Thurmmond and Jack Holmes, police said. Thurmmond and Holmes are held in a San Francisco jail as the confessed kidnapers and slayers of Hart.

Search continued for the body of Hart, who Thurmmond and Holmes said they threw off the San Mateo-Hayward Bridge after slaying the youth, binding his arms and weighting his body with cement blocks.

Hunter Taken for Roadster

Mr. Nathan
Mr. Tolson
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Lester
Mr. Quinn
Mr. Nease

NOT RECORDED

WASHINGTON, D.C., REED - November 11, 1933.

3 More Men Sought in Murder of Hart

SAN FRANCISCO -- Five men participated in the kidnapping and alleged slaying of Brooke L. Hart, 22, of San Jose, Federal authorities said today as they initiated a search for three additional suspects.

This announcement followed a three-hour questioning of Thomas H. Thurmond, San Jose, who with John M. Holmes, also of San Jose, was held in city prison here after confessions that they had abducted young Hart and had thrown him, ragged and weighted, into San Francisco Bay Nov. 8. Search of the bay has failed to find the missing body.

Mrs. D. Silveria, living on a farm near San Jose, told of seeing five men effect the transfer of Hart from his own roadster to a sedan. Four of the men, she said, drove off with the captive, and the other took the roadster away. She was positive of her identification of Hart.

Mr. Nathan	_____
Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Clegg	_____
Mr. Glavin	_____
Mr. Ladd	_____
Mr. Nichols	_____
Mr. Quinn	_____
Mr. Lester	_____
Mr. Coffey	_____

NOT RECORDED
7-375-A

W. H. D. S. J. [Signature]

WASHINGTON D.C. POST, November

1933.

U.S. Jury Indicts Alleged Kidnapers of Hart Boy

San Francisco, Nov. 23 (AP).—J. M. Holmes and Thomas H. Thurmond, who allegedly confessed they kidnaped and slew Brooke Hart, 12, were indicted today by a Federal grand jury here on seven charges of using the mails in an attempt to extort.

The indictments were returned as Federal authorities discounted a theory that Thurmond and Holmes had been accomplices in the abduction of the 12-year-old San Jose merchant.

Mr. Nathan	_____
Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Clegg	_____
Mr. Glavin	_____
Mr. Ladd	_____
Mr. Nichols	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Tracy	_____
Mr. Carson	_____
Mr. Egan	_____
Mr. Gurnea	_____
Mr. Hendon	_____
Mr. Jones	_____
Mr. Quinn	_____
Mr. Nease	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

NOT RECORDED

7-375-A

W.H. [signature]

PRINTER ARRESTED IN HART ABDUCTION

Oakland Man Seized With
Kidnap Note in Pocket After
Phone Calls to Police.

HE INSISTS IT WAS A HOAX

Hamm, in St. Paul, Testifies Ab-
ductors Offered to Help Him
if He Ever Got in a Jam.

OAKLAND, Cal., Nov. 13 (UP).—
Two mysterious telephone calls to
the police and a note indicating he
might have some connection with
a gang suspected of possibly play-
ing a part in the kidnapping of
Brooks Hart, 22-year-old son of a
San Jose department store owner,
resulted in the arrest of Harry W.
Poole, an Oakland printer, here to-
day.

After extended questioning police
announced Poole had said that he
had written the note and had made
the telephone calls as a hoax. He
said he had been drinking and had
decided the idea would be "a good
one."

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decided the idea would be "a good
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one."

Mr. Nathan
Mr. Allen
Mr. Edwards
Mr. Carr
Mr. Higgins
Mr. Quinn
Mr. Lester
Mr. Laska

Is Due at New York

Is Due at New York

Is Due at New York

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NOV 21 1935

NOT RECORDED

NY Journal
11/15/34

WALLET ONLY CLUE IN COAST KIDNAPING

SAN JOSE, Cal., Nov. 13 (AP International News Service).—Detectives had only one clue today in the mysterious kidnaping case of Bruce L. Hart, 22, son of Alex J. Hart, wealthy San Jose department store president.

Young Hart disappeared at 8 o'clock Thursday night after he had entered his automobile to keep an appointment with his father at a country club.

A few hours later the kidnapers telephoned and demanded \$40,000 ransom.

Captain of Inspectors Charles Duells of San Francisco declared the case has several circumstances which make it a puzzle.

WALLET CLUE

"The only definite clue we have so far," said Duells, "is the finding of the Hart boy's wallet on the guard rail of the old trolley Midway Ferry after she had fueled the ferry Larkine at Pier 12. That means, of course, that either young Hart was at that pier after his disappearance Thursday night, or some one there who had the wallet had been taken from the Larkine which was searched thoroughly when she docked at Los Angeles Harbor Saturday morning.

Two San Francisco detectives, a United States Department of Justice investigator, and a family friend went to Los Angeles by airplane to ask Southern California authorities and ship's officers make the search.

"It is absurd to think that Brooks went to Los Angeles for the football game," declared the elder Hart.

He said that no further ransom demands had been made since the first telephone call the night his son disappeared.

Killer at Church Sunday as Hart Prayers Asked

SAN JOSE, Nov. 10 (AP) — Pastor Thorman, one of the ministers who pray at St. Mark's, said he was not Sunday and when the pastor called upon the congregation members to arise in silent prayer for the safe return of young Hart, Thorman bowed his head in solemn prayer along with the rest.

Great sorrow, Thorman's mother said today.

"My boy never was in trouble before. He was a good boy and never missed Sunday school or church. This is almost unbelievable. I can't say more than I know something more than that in the papers."

FRANK L. HART, 21, missing.

San Francisco "DAILY NEWS", dated Nov. 10, 1933

NOT RECORDED

7-375-A

10/11/33

Hart Case Call for Racket Action,

Says Rabbi

SAN JOSE, Nov. 18 (AP) — In an address before his congregation, Rabbi Joseph Karsen declared here the kidnapping and slaying of Brocke L. Hart was "a challenge to the citizens of America to meet this threat of racketeering and crime that has a stranglehold on the nation."

It was Rabbi Karsen whom young Hart had asked to attend the Santa Clara de Alamy's football game yesterday and they had been close friends.

Re: JOHN V. HOLMES
MARCEL TRUFFORD
BROCKE L. HART - Victim
Kidnaping

San Francisco "CALL-BULLETIN", dated Nov. 18, 1933

NOT RECORDED

EMBER 17-1933

TO 4123

Cummings Tells Crime Tales as He Smokes Long Cigars

Attorney General Never Forgets to Mention That Justice Department Agents 'Get Their Man' in Federal Offenses

By C. A. P.

ATTY. GEN. HOMER CUMMINGS gives out cigars at his weekly press conferences, but that is not the only reason these machines draw a large and interested attendance. He has a flair for telling crime stories in a manner both deft and engrossing.

They always concern some new good deed of Justice Department agents and the Attorney General seems to delight in recounting them for their publicity value as well as for the

interest that always attaches to strange and unusual evil doings foisted by the forces of law and order.

His stories—circumstantial and lacking no detail, particularly the important part about the arrest or conviction—are told in a slow drawl as he leans back in his big chair with wreaths of cigar smoke giving his office a kind of homey atmosphere.

"On the evening of Nov. 3, 1932," he says, "Mr. Brooke Hart, aged 22, a graduate of the University of Santa Clara and a son and partner of Alexander J. Hart, one of San Jose's wealthiest merchants, was kidnapped at about 6 p. m. while on his way home.

prove the actual commission of the murder.

The Lindbergh Case

"Mr. Attorney General" asked one of the gathering, "are there any developments in the Lindbergh kidnapping?"

"A large quantity of records in the Lindbergh case were delivered to this department this morning," Cummings replied. "The case is now actively in our hands, and it is now our duty to find out perpetrators of that heinous crime. Cases of that kind are never closed."

Then came the story of one Hartwell, just convicted in Sioux City, Ia., for using the mails to defraud about 40,000 people of a million dollars, under the delusion that they might be heirs to the rich estate of the famous Sir Frances Drake. They were misinformed, according to the Attorney General, that Queen Elizabeth had made away with much of Drake's booty gained from privateering on the Spanish Main, and that the British Government now owes them—counting interest—about \$22,000,000,000.

The prosecution involved bringing from England experts on law and property records extending back 500 years or more.

"So now," says Cummings, taking another puff on his cigar, "Mr. Hartwell will be out of circulation for some time."

"But," comes a question, "how about the 40,000? They are still at large?"

"They," draws the Attorney General,



Maple or Walnut Finish

NOT RECORDED

7-375-A

W H T J

Dead Lad's Parents Give Up Last Hope When Hat Is Found

Alex J. Hart Identifies New
Clue in Kidnaping and Mur-
der; No Trace of Body Seen

By United Press

SAN JOSE, Calif.—A water-
soaked hat today shattered the last
hope of the family of Brooke L. Hart,
22, that the missing youth might
have been alive despite the murder
described by his self-confessed kid-
napers.

Alex J. Hart, wealthy father of the
youth, identified the hat as one be-
longing to his son, Sheriff William
Emig said. It was picked up on a
mudflat near the bridge from which
Thomas H. Thurmond, 24, and John
M. Holmes, 29, admitted throwing
young Hart. Search for the body
has been futile.

HAD HOPED

Emig said that the father had
rated he had been hopeful Brooke
was alive until shown the hat.

Two concrete blocks and several
coils of wire also were found in the
search. The kidnapers said that the
blocks and wire were "extra" dis-
carded when they were not used to
bind the unconscious form of their
victim and weight the body before
throwing it over the bridge railing.

Thurmond was taken from the San
Francisco prison under heavy guard
to show the place where the body
was dropped. There was no demon-
stration, despite threats of mob vi-
olence heard in San Jose and San
Francisco on previous occasions
when the prisoners were removed
from prison.

MUST FIND BODY

Santa Clara County authorities
proceeded with plans to invoke the
severe state kidnaping law against
the two San Jose men. Lawyer
claimed recovery of the body was
not necessary under the statute. It
provides death or life imprisonment
without parole for conviction.

Attorneys who interviewed the
prisoners indicated that both Holmes
and Thurmond probably would re-
state their confessions when brought
to trial.

NOT RECORDED

7-375-A

W. H. P. 70

FIND HART'S HAT IN BAY; NO TRACE OF YOUTH'S BODY

Continue Dragging for Kidnap Victim.

(Continued on back page.)

San Jose, Cal., Nov. 19.—(AP)—Search-
ing the waters for the body of Edward
Hart, 22-year-old victim of a kidnap
plot to obtain \$50,000, authorities to-
day found his hat on the mud bank on
the Alameda county side of San Francisco
bay.

The hat, identified by Deputy Sheriff
John M. ... was found 516 feet south
of the S. & M. bridge, from which
the two men held Thomas M. ...
... and Jack Holmes, have repeatedly
confessed they threw young Hart after
he had been strangled by Holmes.

The hat, authorities said, floated in
the spot ...

Investigation ...

Two investigators for the Alameda
county district attorney's office, George
... and Joseph ...
found the hat. They turned it over to
...
Inside the hatband was the name of

the San Jose department, ...
... by young Hart and his father,
Alex J. Hart.

Meanwhile police continued their
operations of dragging the bay with
grappling hooks, in an endeavor to re-
cover the body, which was wanted
the statements of Thurmond and
Holmes declared, with concrete blocks
... it was thrown from the boat
just an hour after Hart was kidnapped
as he drove his roadster from a park-
ing lot here Nov. 8.

Attempt to Get Release ...

For nearly a week efforts were made
to get the father to pay the \$50,000
ransom demanded. Last Wednesday
night Thurmond was seized as he was
talking over a garage telephone to the
elder Hart and a few hours later
Holmes was arrested by his boat.

Chicago Tribune

11-20-33

NOV 20 1933

7-A

10/20/33

HART'S H.T. IS FOUND IN SAN FRANCISCO BAY

Search for Body of Kidnaped Man
Still Futile as Waters Are
Scanned for Clues.

By the Associated Press.

SAN FRANCISCO, November 20—

Except for a hat, identified as Brooks L. Hart's, authorities today had found no important clue in their search for the body of the San Jose kidnaping victim. Shortly after the hat was picked up by searchers in the Mud Gate of San Francisco Bay last night, four oil company company books were discovered in the mud nearby. The cover of one of the books bore a signature, but it had been smeared by the water into illegibility.

Authorities said they believed the books may have been dropped by Hart or by one of the two men accused of kidnaping him and throwing him into the bay from the San Mateo bridge.

John M. Holmes and Thomas H. Thurmond, who police say confessed to abducting the 22-year-old store executive and slaying him in a \$40,000 ransom pact, remained in the San Francisco city prison.

Preparations for their execution in San Jose under a state law setting death or life imprisonment as the penalty for kidnaping if the victim is injured were abandoned by authorities there.

Both Holmes and Thurmond were visited by members of their families, accompanied by attorneys. The attorneys declined to discuss what defense plans

NOT RECORDED

7 375-A

W.B. J.C.

WASHINGTON D.C. TIMES - November 20 1933

HART CAPTORS FACE CHARGE OF MURDER

Holmes and Thurmond to Face
Hearing; Slain Boys' Hat
Found on Mud Flats

SAN JOSE, Cal., Nov. 20 (I.N.S.). Formal charges of kidnaping and murder will be made today by Sheriff William J. Emie against Jack Holmes and Thomas Thurmond, confessed kidnaper-slayers of Brooke Hart, 23-year-old son of a wealthy San Jose department store owner.

Preliminary hearing of the trial probably will start tomorrow or Wednesday.

An intensive investigation was being made of the careers of Holmes and Thurmond, both reputed to have been "model citizens" before the fiendish murder they confessed. In the belief the pair had engaged in a series of bold and profitable robberies.

In \$700 Holding

Sheriff Emie reported that M. J. Michel, San Jose executive of an oil company, identified Thurmond as one of two men who held him up September 21, and escaped with \$700.

Michel expressed belief that Holmes was the second holdup man and was certain the automobile used by the pair was the same machine in which young Hart was driven from San Jose to the San Mateo bridge and a terrible death.

The search continued today for young Hart's body in lower San Francisco Bay.

San Jose Police are convinced a 1932 Buick was used in the kidnaping and murder. The car is being searched for in the San Francisco Bay area. The car is being searched for in the San Francisco Bay area. The car is being searched for in the San Francisco Bay area.

At Pump Station
Plumbers Compd.

111
tag

INSANITY PLEA IN HART CASE

SAN JOSE, Calif., Nov. 20 (U.P.)—Authorities said today that they believe Thomas G. H. Thummond, one of two confessed slayers of Brooke Hart, 22, wealthy San Jose youth, will plead insanity when he and J. M. (Jack) Holmes are placed on trial for their lives.

Superior William Enig, District Attorney Fred L. Thomas and Deputy District Attorney Herbert Bridges conferred today on plans for a swift prosecution of the two men who have admitted abducting Hart and throwing him into San Francisco Bay.

Meanwhile, two important discoveries were made by officers and divers searching the bay where the prisoners said they threw Hart.

Following discovery of the youth's hat, a pillow also believed to have been placed over his head during the automobile trip from San Jose to the bridge, was found.

IN 15122 AGH
AND

NOT RECORDED

7-355-A

104091

15,000 Lynch Hart Slayers

(Continued from First Page) The mob and battered down the front door of the jail.

OFFICERS RETIRE TO FIRE

Sheriff William E. ... They shouted in fear.

The mob raced through the jail yelling for Thurmond and Holmes. Sheriff Ewing and Deputy Sheriff Howard Buffington refused to give into the crowd and attempted to stop it with bare fists.

They were beaten down and the mob trampled the two unfortunate murderers.

They were taken from their cells and rushed across the street to the park. Their cries for mercy were lost in the angry roar of the mob.

They were beaten, kicked and dragged across the park to where some six trees stood.

A heavy rope was passed around Thurmond's neck. He was unconscious and may have been dead from the beating he received. His inert body was jerked 20 feet into the air and left there.

Holmes was still conscious when he was hanged and kept his eyes open.

He shouted: "You've got the wrong man; I'm Joe Pierre."

The mob answered: "Strangle him up!"

Clothes had been torn from him. The rope went around his

neck and many men pulled. He shot high into the air.

Many persons fainting. Several women fainted. Houses burning. Naked men, and slumped to the ground. They may have been trampled. In the excitement, it was impossible to determine whether any of the mob suffered serious injuries.

Three-quarters of an hour after the lynchings, the limp bodies still hanging from the elm trees.

Hours of wild fighting at the jail preceded the lynching.

Bricks were flying through the air by dozens. Every window in the county jail and many in the courthouse were broken.

Deputy sheriffs retreated into the jail proper and barricaded the door. Several State policemen were trapped outside and took refuge in a shed.

Officers barricaded within the jail hurled tear gas bombs through broken windows at the attackers.

REPORTER BLINDED

Witnesses said most of the windows of the jail had been smashed. Several officers and newspaper reporters were reported trapped in a shed near the jail. Adolph Muller, reporter for the San Francisco News, was blinded by tear gas, but managed to escape from the shed to reach a telephone to relate an eyewitness description of the scene.

The attack was incited by a youth in his teens.

For hours the uneasy crowd had heard shouts of "Let's go get 'em."

The youth got on top of the shed in the courtyard and screamed:

"Come on, boys, let's go and get 'em!"

The crowd took up the cry and swept against the barriers the officers had erected.

LEADER DRAGGED INSIDE

Several State policemen and deputy sheriffs grabbed the youthful leader of the mob and dragged him inside the jail. The door was closed and barricaded, leaving several officers outside.

The men in the shed had no

other gas weapons. They were loathe to use pistols against the crowd.

As the mob of hundreds continued to bombard the jail the group with the ballistics tam made repeated assaults against the jail door.

Ten times within the space of almost as few minutes the men ran up and thrust the heavy pole against the door. Each time they were driven back, eyes dripping with tears.

Nick Lavett, one of the officers who defended the jail from within, received severe burns on his upper right arm from tear gas.

Hart's Mutilated Body Is Found in Bay

SAN FRANCISCO, Nov. 26 (U.S.)—The squadd waters of San Francisco Bay tonight gave up the horribly mutilated body of young Brooks L. Hart, son of a wealthy San Jose family kidnapped and murdered the night of November 9.

And as identification was made positive by friends and relatives, extraordinary precautions were taken to protect Harold Thurmond and Jack Holmes, confessed killers held in the county jail at San Jose.

The temper of the people of Santa Clara county was at fever pitch, and authorities believed only a leader was wanting to start a lynching attempt. Twenty policemen and as many deputy sheriffs were on guard at the antiquated jail with machine guns and tear gas bombs. All streets leading to the jail were blockaded.

The body was found floating in the bay by two Redwood City duck hunters. The discovery was made in a portion of the bay that was covered thoroughly by organized searchers in the days following the arrest of Holmes and Thurmond.

Young Hart was not killed before he was thrown into the bay, the body showed. There were no bullet wounds, as far as a cursory examination revealed.

San Jose, Calif., Nov. 26 (A.P.)—The confessed kidnaper-slayers of Brooke Hart, San Jose youth, were lynched here tonight by a mob which broke into the county jail and seized the pair.

The mob, repeatedly repulsed by tear gas bombs hurled by officers around the jail, finally battered down the jail door and were able to reach the men, Thomas H. Thurmond and John Holmes.

They were taken across the street from the jail into St. James' Park and hanged.

Thurmond was entirely stripped. When the mob first entered the jail two men were seized but it was later found one of them was not connected with the kidnapping. The crowd tossed him aside, rushed back into the jail and seized the other kidnaper.

Both Prisoners Beaten

The two kidnappers were dragged 100 yards from the jail to the park. There leaders of the mob sought a tree from which to hang them.

Lesson to Kidnappers, Is Ralph's Comment

Sacramento, Nov. 26 (A.P.)—When Gov. James Ralph was advised tonight the player-kidnappers of Brooke L. Hart had been lynched in San Jose he said: "This is the best lesson that California has ever given the country. We show the country that the State is not going to tolerate kidnapping."

Holmes' clothes were virtually torn from his body.

Both were beaten badly and almost unconscious.

The officers were powerless to cope with the mob.

Thurmond fainted and was unconscious when he was hanged.

Holmes resisted and threw the rope once off his back. It was forced back on and he was raised kicking into the air.

Sheriff William Emig was taken unconscious to the hospital. He was beaten about the head.

The hanging was witnessed by a crowd of 4,000. Thousands more were flocking to the park to see the bodies both hanging some 100 feet above the ground.

The crowd flocked to the park where the interior of the jail was reduced to wreckage.

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Hart Kidnappers Lynched by Mob

Continued from Page 1

mond and Holmes were imprisoned in separate cells.

Some 50 men broke through the crowd carrying the pipe when a second group, seeing the pipe and realizing the use to which it was being put, took a second pipe from the portico and launched their own attack on the jail doors.

The solid iron and heavily barred doors were broken aside easily as the angry crowd of thousands cheered. Deputy sheriffs, police and special officers fought bitterly, using clubs and tear gas. But they were manhandled and brushed aside.

Throng Overruns Jail

The two crews manning the battering ram moved back and started a drive against the heavily barred door and grating which closed in the inner jail. This gave even more easily than the outer door and the yelling mob swarmed into the second and third floors.

The keys to the cells were taken from the deputy in charge and he was beaten as he attempted to resist.

Once in the jail yard there was no further resistance. Police and special guards were brushed aside helplessly.

With wild whoops, which drew thousands of onlookers homeward bound from nearby theaters, the mob raced with their two prisoners to St. James' Park, across the street from the county courthouse, which stands directly in front of the county jail.

Holmes Fights Back

Thurmond was hung first. Thousands cheered as the body was drawn up into the beams of fleshlights. There was more delay in the hanging of Holmes, a powerful man, weighing over 200 pounds and more than 6 feet tall. He fought furiously, his captors beating him without stop.

Onlookers scaled three trees on the north side of the park. Two of these were discarded, and some difficulty was had in finding a suitable limb on the third over which the rope could be thrown. The crowd yelled for haste. Finally a crotch about 20 feet from the ground was chosen. The rope was thrown over this and a noose drawn about Holmes' neck. He fought savagely, wringing his hands free and pulling the rope above his head. Twice the noose was thrust in its efforts.

Then Holmes, stripped naked and beaten almost insensible, was hoisted above the heads of the howling mob.

Both Now to Disappear

There was no back of the part of the mob to disappear. Yelling continued through the night. The county jail was a scene of confusion.

men, several of whom had their equipment taken from them and destroyed. They showed approval as the flesh cuts flared about the two hanging bodies.

Many Women Faint

A number of women watching the hanging were reported to have fainted. They were helped out of the park by onlookers.

Except for the action of the self-appointed hangmen clustered about the gallows trees the mob appeared orderly.

Police and officers who had been on guard kept carefully away from the park, watching the action of the mob from the opposite side of the wide street, more than 150 yards from where the bodies were hanged.

Those who stood nearest the gallows trees said that as Holmes was finally hoisted up the small group that had held him captive and hauled the men above the crowd shook hands and fled, swiftly through the scattering crowd of onlookers.

As they left cries of "That's a good job" were heard.

The body of Hart, kidnapped and slain 22-year-old son of Alex J. Hart, wealthy San Jose cement store owner, was found in San Francisco Bay, near Hayward, today.

Identification of the body was made from clothing by friends and officials of the store.

Two duck hunters found it floating half a mile south of the San Mateo-Hayward Bridge, from which Thomas H. Thurmond and Jack Holmes, have allegedly confessed they threw the youth last November 8 after stunning him with a blow from a brick.

Body Topped Ashore

Leonard L. Davis and Harold L. Stephens, of Redwood City, the hunters, towed the body to shore.

With the announcement of the find, hundreds of persons gathered around the jail in which Thurmond and Holmes are held, and Sheriff William J. Emig took extra precautions.

Thurmond and Holmes were scheduled for arraignment this week on charges of murder and kidnapping. The new California kidnapping law carries a penalty of death or life imprisonment without parole.

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Both were beaten badly and almost unconscious.

The officers were powerless to cope with the mob.

Thurmond fainted and was unconscious when he was hanged. Holmes resisted and threw the rope, once, off his back. It was forced back on and he was raised kicking into the air.

Sheriff William Knig was taken unconscious to the hospital. He was beaten about the head.

The hanging was witnessed by a crowd of 1,000. Thousands more were looking in the park to see the bodies being hanged some 50 feet above the ground.

The crowd jostled at the jail was driven to the wreckage.

Body of Deane Broken

An 8-inch pipe, about 25 or 30 feet long was slipped from the park, rolled down the San Jose post-office building, the county jail. It was used as a battering ram to pound in the front door of the jail and then rolled across to the second and third floors of the jail, where Thurmond and Holmes were held.

Continued on Page 2, Column 2.

Half Newspapers Lynched by Mob

Continued from Page 1.

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Then Holmes, stripped naked and beaten almost insensible, was hauled above the heads of the howling mob.

Mob Slow to Disperse

There was no haste on the part of the mob to disperse. Yelling continued, though subdued. Across First street steps of the county court house and the hall of records were crowded with people. Streets about St. James' Park four blocks square were packed with automobiles and pedestrians. Street car traffic was blocked. Passengers deserted street cars and automobiles.

Thousands of persons attracted by the yelling of the mob, continued to throng downtown streets leading to the jail and the scene of the hanging. A few moved toward the jail to survey the damage done.

There was considerable discussion about the hanging. Some said it was a disgrace. Others said it was a lesson to the world.

Many, several of whom had their equipment taken from them and destroyed. They shouted approvingly as the flesh runs sared about the two hanging bodies.

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WASHINGTON D.C. NEWS, November 1933.

Mr. Nathan
Mr. Tolson
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Jones
Mr. Mumford
Mr. Quinn
Mr. Nease
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Starnes
Mr. Tamm
Mr. Telford
Mr. W.C. Sullivan
Miss Gandy

Hunt for Hart's Body Abandoned by Police

SAN JOSE, Calif.—Police authorities turned over to individuals today the search for the body of Brooke L. Hart, young kidnaper and slaying victim, in the vicinity of the San Mateo bridge, from which his self-confessed abductors said they threw him into San Francisco Bay.

"We are convinced that the body is not near the bridge," a sheriff said.

Granted by a \$200 reward for recovering the missing body, several of individuals suspected in the deed and tramped along the bay shore line. The reward was posted by Alex J. Hart, wealthy father of the young college graduate who disappeared Nov. 8.

Menlo Park county authorities built up the case which they plan to present against Thomas H. Thurmond, 24, and John M. Holmes, 25, who allegedly admitted abducting Hart and dropping him unconscious into the water. Heavily armed deputies guarded the spot here to prevent reported plans to raise the two men.

gpc

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NOT RECORDED

7-375-A

WASHINGTON, D.C. *TIME*, November 27, 1933.

HART'S FATHER REGRETS MOB

SAN JOSE, Cal., Nov. 27 (I.N.R.).

Violent vengeance for the murderers of his son was not the wish of Alex J. Hart, wealthy San Jose department store owner, it was disclosed today.

When word was flashed to him that a mob would soon avenge the untimely death of Brooke Hart, the father said:

"Please, please tell the rioters that they must not be violent. The police and other officers have done fine work and I'm sure the courts will give the kidnappers their proper punishment.

"I am so overcome with my own grief that I am unable to think of that other terrible thing. My sympathy goes out to the families of these two men."

Meanwhile, Hart made plans for burial of his son, whom he had just recently made vice president of his firm.

Mrs. Hart, the slain youth's mother, begged to see Brooke's body and Sheriff William J. Hunt persuaded her not to visit the mortuary. He said:

"Remember Brooke as you had seen him."

NOT RECORDED

7-975-H

GOV. ROLPH WILL IN HART CASE PARDON LYNCHERS IF THEY'RE CAUGHT

Here Is the Story of 5000 Persons Who Went Mad

Only an Army Could Have
Stopped Double Hang-
ing, Observer Says

SAN JOSE, Cal., Dec. 27.—A mob of thirty men of 1909 had hung Thomas Hart and John Holmes here last night. The men were bent on vengeance for the kidnapping and killing of Joseph Hart. Only an army could have stopped the double hanging.

When they dragged Thomas Hart and Holmes from the gallows, the crowd about went up. Holmes was naked. He was screaming "I've got the wrong man."

"You're Holmes all right," the crowd roared. "You're going to die. Come down, you yellow-bellied scoundrel."

Holmes lay on the ground, his head on the neck. Blood ran from his eyes. He was bleeding.

"Yes, I'm Holmes," he cried. "A boy shot me in the back. The mob dragged Holmes from the gallows. The mob dragged Holmes from the gallows. The mob dragged Holmes from the gallows."

The mob dragged Holmes from the gallows. The mob dragged Holmes from the gallows. The mob dragged Holmes from the gallows. The mob dragged Holmes from the gallows. The mob dragged Holmes from the gallows.

California Executive Says Act Should Be 'Lesson to Country'

He Would Turn Over Other Kid-
napers to Mob if He Had
Power to Do So; 2 Hanged

SACRAMENTO, Cal., Dec. 27.—All kidnapers held in Folsom and San Quentin prisons should be turned over to the people of California for proper treatment, Gov. James Rolph said today.

"I am thinking of pardoning any kidnapers to those fine patriotic citizens of San Jose who know how to handle the situation," he said.

Rolph determined that two kidnapers are in Folsom Prison: Joseph D. Ballie, 39, for serving a life term for kidnapping, extortion and robbery; and Earl H. Van Dorn was sentenced to serve 20 years to life for kidnaping and extortion.

Rolph admitted that he could not return them to the people.

They're here, but they're not here. They're not here, but they're here. They're not here, but they're here. They're not here, but they're here.

A boy shot me in the back. The mob dragged Holmes from the gallows. The mob dragged Holmes from the gallows. The mob dragged Holmes from the gallows.

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Washington & C
news, Nov. 27,
1923

Another Gross
Crime
The mob dragged Holmes from the gallows. The mob dragged Holmes from the gallows. The mob dragged Holmes from the gallows. The mob dragged Holmes from the gallows. The mob dragged Holmes from the gallows.

Rolph Scored For Condoning Coast Lynching

Organizations and Citizens
Rebuke Governor for
Praising Mob.

(Continued from Page 1)
The lynching of Thomas Thurmond and Jack Holmes in California Sunday night and the statement of Gov. James Rolph, Jr., that the mob "did a good job," resulted in a flood of criticism yesterday.

National organizations as well as prominent individuals voiced protests against the governor's attitude.

Some of the comment follows:
SAN FRANCISCO—J. Oscar Goldstein, attorney for the Thurmond family, said the governor's attitude was "reprehensible and a blot against the State," declaring that the lynched man's mother is dying as a result of the mob action.

"Fainted for Job"

NEW YORK—The National Committee for the Defense of Political Prisoners addressed a letter to Gov. Rolph, declaring: "You are unfit for the responsibilities placed upon you. We are as far from advocating kidnapping as you are. We believe that for their crime, Thurmond and Holmes should have been tried and sentenced."

OKLAHOMA CITY—Gov. W. H. Murray said the lynching of Thurmond and Holmes could have been averted if the public had been convinced that the kidnappers would have received the death penalty.

LINCOLN, NEB.—Uniform State laws, making death the penalty for kidnapping, "is the most satisfactory way to deal with the kidnapping racket," Gov. Charles W. Bryan said. "Kidnaping," he said, "is the most dastardly of all crimes."

Action Called "Unsound"

NEW YORK—Gov. Rolph's attitude was attacked as a "blatant official endorsement" to mob law by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

DECATUR, ALA.—Thomas R. Knight, Jr., Alabama attorney general, who is directing prosecution of the Scottsboro case, expressed opposition to mob violence "in any form."

WESTFIELD, MASS.—Gov. Joseph B. Ely said laconically, "I disapprove of lynching."

BOSTON—Dr. William L. Snodgrass, pastor of the Copley Methodist Episcopal Church, said he thought it a "terrible thing for Gov. Rolph to say."

NEW YORK—The American Civil Liberties Union said: "We express the indignation of thousands who deplore and condemn kidnapping, but who abhor lynching and mob violence."

Mob "Accessory" in Killing

ATLANTA—The Southern Commission on Interracial Cooperation, through its president, Dr. W. W. Alexander, charged Gov. Rolph with being "an accessory before the fact" in the lynching.

CHICAGO—Clarence Darrow expressed bewilderment over the reported remarks of Gov. Rolph of California, condoning the lynching of two kidnappers.

ST. PAUL—Assistant Attorney General Joseph R. Keenan, who prosecuted the Kelly Bailey gang of kidnappers in Oklahoma, and the Tracy gangsters in St. Paul, said "the spirit of mob violence breeds contempt of law."

SPRINGFIELD, ILL.—Gov. Henry Horner said "every lynching is a defiance of law and order and an admission of the inadequacy of local authorities to prosecute crime."

NOT RECORDED

Many in Mob Drue', Young Leader States

Self-Styled Organizer, 17,
Says He Was First
to Enter Jail.

(The following story by an 18-year-old youth who claims to be the first one of the Bremer kidnaping gang to get into the jail at San Jose, Calif., is being told to the Post.)

By Anthony Colantuono.

(Copyright 1932 by the United Press.)

San Jose, Calif., Nov. 27.—I was the first one of the gang to break into the jail.

I came to town in the afternoon and saw the crowd around the jail and heard Brooks Hart's body had been found. I decided to organize a racket party. I went out to my father's ranch on Cap's Avenue and got some more rope for the hanging.

Then I went all over town in my radiator and passed out the word.

"We're going to have a hanging on the jail at 11 o'clock tonight."

"Many in Mob Drue'."

Seven o'clock was the deadline. I told everyone. Mostly I went to speakeasies and rounded up the gang there. That is why so many of the mob was drunk.

We had the word passed all over San Jose. We made three attempts to batter the door. The first time we poured out and got some more rope down, but it was worse than the officers inside.

One of our fellows threw up a tear bomb and threw it in the middle of the officers.

But when we broke into the jail was scared stiff.

I was ready to back out.

The thing that scared me was seeing the screen to the left-hand turn down. I thought "I'll get to inside there and look up at the guard."

First on Cell Floor.

But once the screen crashed, I dashed in and ran up stairs after some deputy sheriff. I was the first one of the gang to get on the second floor, where Thompson was located.

Four or five of us made the first rush for the cell. The deputies pleaded with us not to take the prisoners.

Deputy Huntington, the jailer, with tears streaming down his face, said: "Boys, let us know and pray that you take the right way."

One fellow dashed down the stairs and at once in the side, and all the rest of the gang all knelt in silent prayer. When the prayer was broken up when a drunk guy in the gang yelled:

"Amen, Brother Ben."

We took the boys away from the deputies and broke into Thompson's cell on the second floor. We missed seeing him the first two times we looked. He was hanging up at top of the alcove.

When we found him, one of the guys took him down and he fell, striking his head on the floor.

Thompson Silent.

Thompson never said a word from the time we entered him until he was dead. I think he was taking unconscious.

Two officers identified him for us. We dragged him to the park and tried to make him talk. I lifted his eyelids and his eyes fixated, and he showed very plainly that he knew everything that was happening. He was just playing dead or something.

Part of the gang rushed Holmes' cell and he told us he was Pierce, but we had the photo on him.

There was a fellow in the party who knew him and a deputy sheriff also whispered:

"Boys, you've got the right fellow."

He said afterward his name was Johnson, but finally admitted he was Holmes.

The tear gas didn't seem to bother me very much.

The word spread around that it was going to be a Santa Clara University lynching, but for me a Santa Clara student. I didn't go to college. Probably some of the college boys joined in, but I think we got most of our recruits from speakeasies.


I knew Brooks Hart by sight, but never had spoken to him. I thought that his family would be avenged.

I found that every minute others thought the same thing.

NOT RECORDED

11/28/32

11/28/32



104. 34-222

ROLPH THREATENS KIDNAPERS IN CELLS

(Continued from First Page)

"PLEASE DONT HANG ME"

"Don't hang me. Please don't hang me."

Thurmond's body swung in the
down light in mob-made grotesque
pose. His body was stripped from
the waist down. His coat and
bloodstained shirt hang in rib-
bioned shreds.

"You can't do it."

But, they did it.

"You didn't give Ernesto Mares a chance."

The lynchers tied him as they strung the whipping posts to the sycamore tree.

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7-305-A

WASHINGTON D.C. HERALD, November 28, 1933.

GOV. ROLPH'S STATEMENT ON DUAL LYNCHING

People Have Served Notice
Kidnaping Won't Be Allowed
in California, He Declares

By JAMES ROLPH, Jr.
Governor of California
Writes for California Service

SAN FRANCISCO, Nov. 27.
The kidnaping and murder of
Brooke Hart was one of the most
atrocious crimes ever committed
in the State of California.

Not only was Brooke Hart kid-
naped, but it was contemplated
at the time of the kidnaping that
he would be murdered and
that thereafter ransom would
be demanded of his father upon
the assumption that his son was
still alive, and, in the event of
payment of the amount de-
manded, would be returned to his
family unharmed.

BRUTAL KILLING

The killing by the kidnapers
of their victim was singularly
brutal. Taken in an automobile
under threat of gunfire if resist-
ance were offered, young Hart
was conveyed to a secluded spot
on the San Mateo bridge. With-
out according him the slightest
opportunity of self-protection,
they struck him on the head
with a brick, fracturing his skull,
bound him hand and foot with
wire, weighted him with blocks
of concrete and while he was
still alive tossed him into the
waters of San Francisco Bay.

His pleas for mercy were cru-
elly disregarded. Before his body
thus bound and weighted receded
below the waters into which he
was cast one of his captors
deliberately emptied his revolver
at the disappearing form.

Having thus accomplished the
killing of Brooke Hart, they con-
centrated their efforts towards
obtaining from the grief-stricken
family the ransom, the believed
payment of which inspired their
crime.

VENGEANCE TAKEN

It is little wonder that the peo-
ple of the community in which
the murdered man and his family
resided arose in their wrath and
took vengeance on Brooke Hart's
slayer.

The people of California are
both law-abiding and peaceable.
They are unwilling, however, to
permit this great State of ours to
become infected or crime-ridden
with kidnapers. While the law
should have been permitted to
take its course, the people by their
action have given notice to the en-
tire world that in California kid-
naping will not be tolerated.

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Clegg	_____
Mr. Glavin	_____
Mr. Ladd	_____
Mr. Nichols	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Tracy	_____
Mr. Carson	_____
Mr. Egan	_____
Mr. Gurnea	_____
Mr. Hendon	_____
Mr. Jones	_____
Mr. Quinn	_____
Mr. Nease	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

NOT RECORDED

1-375-H

WASHINGTON D.C. 1126, November 27, 1933.

**LYNCHING CONDEMNED
BY JOSEPH B. KEENAN**

By Carol Press

ST. PAUL.—The "spirit of mob violence breeds contempt of law," Assistant Attorney General Joseph B. Keenan said today in commenting upon the lynching of two confessed kidnapers at San Jose, Cal. Such happenings, he added, will not deter the Government in using its "lawful power" to assist the efforts of local law enforcement agencies.

47

Mr. Nathan	_____
Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Clegg	_____
Mr. Glavin	_____
Mr. Ladd	_____
Mr. Nichols	_____
Mr. Quinn	_____
Mr. Lester	_____
Mr. Egan	_____

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NOT RECORDED

UNION PACIFIC STAR, November 28, 1935

LAUD AND CENSURE ROLPH IN LYNCHING

Prominent Americans Wire
Protests and Praise to
Governor.

By the Associated Press
SAN JOSE, Calif., November 28.—
Praise and censure for San Jose's mob
vengeance on the kidnap-slayers of
Brooks L. Holt were met here today by
official efforts to close the case and
wipe out hints of its curious climax.

Governors of other States, church
leaders and other prominent persons in
all parts of the Nation were among
those who joined in lauding or con-
demning the mob action and the ap-
proval of it by Gov. James Rolph, Jr., of
California.

Disapproval was expressed by Gov.
Henry H. Blood of Utah, Gov. Henry
Horner of Illinois, Gov. Pollard of Vir-
ginia and William Green, president of
the American Federation of Labor. Gov.
W. H. Murray of Oklahoma declared
the "citizens would not have taken the
law into their own hands" if speedier
prosecutions in the courts were assured.

Rabbi Stephen W. Wise of New York
declared the lynchings were "more bar-
baric" than those victims. Henry
Darlington, rector of the Church of
Heavenly Rest, New York, sent con-
gratulations to Gov. Rolph "on the
stand you have taken."

In view of Gov. Rolph's declaration
that he would immediately pardon any
one convicted of the lynchings, officials
frankly admitted the probability of
prosecution was remote.

Several young men were reported to
have puny puny that they took
leading parts in dragging Thomas M.
Thurmond and John M. Holmes, the
accused kidnapers, from the county jail.

(Continued on Page 2, Column 1)

LAUD AND CENSURE ROLPH IN LYNCHING

Prominent Americans Wire
Protests and Praise to
Governor.

(Continued from First Page)

and hanging them to two elm trees in
St. James Park.

These reports drew no official recog-
nition. District Attorney Fred L. Thomas
expressed regret at the lynchings, and
said "I don't see what we can do
about it."

Work on repairs to the jail and other
buildings damaged by the mob was
started and City Manager Claude Cham-
berlain announced the two trees from
which Thurmond and Holmes were
hanged will be uprooted and destroyed.
The trees, slashed and torn by
crowds, were so badly damaged
that gardeners expressed doubt if they
could live.

This fact and a desire to remove all
possible reminders of the mob's action
led to his decision, Goodwin said.

Alex J. Hart, merchant and father
of the 22-year-old kidnap victim, whose
body was placed in the family vault
yesterday, was among those regretting
the mob action.

Sympathetic With Him

"I am so overcome with my sym-
pathy," he said, "that I am unable to
think of that other terrible thing. My
sympathy goes out to the families of
those two men."

Gov. Rolph reaffirmed his approval
of the action Sunday night by the
"rugged people" of San Jose in a state-
ment in San Francisco last night.

The Governor wired to Gov. Ross of
Idaho that "conditions in California
are very unsettled" because of the
lynchings and that he deemed it ad-
visable not to go to Boise for a Gov-
ernors' conference.

Regarding the many messages of con-
demnation and praise for his attitude,
the Governor said that criticism was in
excess.

"These criticisms are," he added, "so
not so much what would have happened
had the National Guard moved in and
had rescued down innocent citizens."

The Governor admitted "that" he
threatened to turn over all kidnapers to
Queen's and Police Patrols to the
people of San Jose for punishment and
to be taken literally. He praised Sheriff
William J. Smith and other officers for
their efforts to save Thurmond and
Holmes.

"If their duty as far as I was
concerned," he said, "but the danger of the
people was determined to give peace to
the world that kidnaping and murder
will not be tolerated in California."

Shut in Hospital

Sheriff Smith and Deputy Sheriff New-
ard Burlington, who were knocked down
as they attempted to stem the advance
of the enraged mob, remained in a hos-
pital.

United States Attorney H. H. Mc-
Pherson, who returned Sunday night from
San Francisco, declared the mob was in
the state to effort, however. In this case,
lynchings have taken the place of civiliza-
tion.

Justice of the Peace Chester W.
Morse, before whom Thurmond and
Holmes were to have been arraigned
yesterday on charges of kidnaping Holt
and threatening him with the franchise
law, placed his records with the follow-
ing notation: "The same criminal action
terminated by the official hanging of
the above defendants in St. James Park
November 24, 1935."

Thurmond's reaction after expressing
belief he was innocent and making a
statement condemning the lynching,
claimed the body. Holmes' father,
Maurice Holmes, while recovering his
son in his son's honor, had not
claimed the body.

PRaised AND CONDEMNED.

Comment relative to Gov. Rolph's
declaration condemning the lynching of
the two slayers of Brooks Hart follow:
William Green, president of the Amer-
ican Federation of Labor: "We cannot
condemn such mob rule. It was
very horrible and unfortunate to have
the matter settled as it was."

Gov. Pollard of Virginia said he was
"unhappily opposed to lynching" as
a means of punishing persons guilty of
kidnaping. "One of the worst of all
crimes." He said he believed those
suspected of crime should be brought
promptly to justice in an "orderly
manner."

Gov. Henry Horner of Illinois said
that any one seriously believing in law
and order could not condone the lynching
of the Hart kidnap-slayers. Lynching
was indicative of a breakdown in
the law-enforcement machinery, he
said.

Dr. W. W. Alvord, director of the
Commission on Interracial Cooperation,
said: "The Governor of California, in
expressing approval of the lynching at
San Jose last night, has lent his sup-
port to the most heinous form of law-
lessness in America. A better lynching
and kidnaping, lynching is the
more serious crime of the two."

Col. James A. Mose, president general
of the United Shavers Fraternity, said
characterized Gov. Rolph's approval of
the Holmes-Thurmond lynching as a
stimulant to mob rule. Although as-
serting that no punishment could have
been too severe for the atrocity to which
Holmes and Thurmond are said to have
confessed, Mose said that such was
aside from the point at issue.

Gov. George White of Ohio declined
to comment. He recalled, however, that
the lynch law played a part in efforts
to deter crime during the days of the
Klansman gold rush, in which he par-
ticipated, but, he added, "there were
no courts then."

Ray Wilkins, assistant secretary of
the National Association for the Ad-
vancement of Colored People, said:
"California has given the country a lesson in
most brazen approval of lynching by
highest officials the country has ever
seen."

"Congratulations to the state sitting
ward the two-headed monster which
did the finest thing that has been done
in years," wired Mrs. Arthur Kent,
Ardmore, Pa.

"I agree with you as to your attitude
reported in New York papers today
respecting lynching of Hart kidnapers
and murderers," mentioned George Henry
Sherman, Glenview, N. Y. Many of

San Jose when I thought he was
dead. I agree with me."

R. W. Smith and C. E. Green,
San Jose, Va., said: "Congratulations
our countrymen."

James C. Crawford, St. Louis, Mo.,
said: "Thank God there is one Governor
who will not allow such a statement."

Paul Scharrerberg, secretary of
California State Federation of Labor,
said: "It is very, very bad and deplorable
that we have a chief executive
who would make such a statement."

Ministers Protest

A strongly worded resolution
from Governor Rolph to "re-
voke" his reported favorable view
upon the action of the mob
adopted by the Los Angeles Min-
isters Association.

"I hope that the San Jose
will be an impressive lesson for
the future," said Mrs. Herbert C.
Crawford, Los Angeles club-
woman. "It should convince the criminal
California that the people of this
state when they are aroused to the
lynching matters into their own
hands and money. We want to
know and money willing un-
derstand help criminals evade the
law. I have discussed this
with many people and they
all feel the same way. That we
do not condone mob violence,
because as this will be a very
lesson for criminals."

ARREST FACES 'BOASTERS' OF LYNCHING MOB

Threat Intended to Quiet
Youths Who Claim They
Led Crowd in Jail Attack

SAN FRANCISCO, Nov. 18 (U. P.).—As a direct result of the kidnaping of Brooks L. Hart and the subsequent lynching of his abductors and kidnapers, a legislative movement began today to make the death penalty mandatory for every kidnaping offense in California.

The movement was started by Assemblyman Ray J. Nelson, of Sacramento, who announced that he will present a bill to the next legislature to make the new state kidnaping law even more drastic.

SAN JOSE QUIET

The law now provides execution for kidnapers in cases where the victim meets bodily harm, and permits the jury to substitute life imprisonment, with no chance for parole.

Nelson asserted:

"Kidnaping should be punishable only by death, and that regardless of whether the victim is injured."

Nelson announced his intention while Governor Rolph was still receiving a flood of telegrams from all sections of the United States commending him severely for his attitude on the lynching and others condemning him harshly.

Meanwhile, San Jose, scene of its violent rampage in recent California history, was still vividly discussing the case. Souvenirs of the lynching—pieces of the tree from which the victims and Holmes were hanged—were being hawked on the streets. Photographs of the victims, as they dangled from the tree, were also offered for sale.

In San Francisco, sale of such pictures was ordered stopped by authorities, and resulted in a fine of \$100 for one seller.

INQUIRY ORDERED

Fred Thomas, San Jose District Attorney, announced that his office will conduct an investigation in the lynching. He will ask, he said, that stories told by youths who boasted of leading the lynch mob be checked.

It was clearly indicated in official circles, however, greater effort will be expended in attempting to locate and prosecute the persons responsible for injuries to Sheriff William J. Emig, than those actually responsible for the lynching.

Sheriff William J. Emig was recovering today from injuries received at the hands of the mob Sunday night.

According to a deputy sheriff Emig cried out, during the lynching:

"The crowd will have to hang me, too, if it hangs these men in my care."

NOT RECORDED

7-375-A

Lynchings Inspire Fear of God, Says Fashionable Cleric

New York Minister Congratu-
lates Rolph; Press Condemns
Governor's Approval of Deed

A widely known clergyman, pas-
tor of a fashionable New York
church, today echoed the approval
Gov. James Rolph Jr. of California
gave the San Jose mob that lynched
two kidnaper-slayers, but promi-
nent men and organizations in all
parts of the country sent messages
condemning official condonement of
lynch law.

The Rev. Dr. Henry Darlington,
pastor of the Protestant Episcopal
Church of Heavenly Rest, Fifth-av.,
New York City, sent this telegram
to Rolph: "Congratulations on the
stand you have taken."

'NEEDED SOMETHING'

He explained his action:
"I deprecate lynching, but at this
time the country needs something
to crystallize thought and to put the
fear of God into the hearts of crimi-
nals."

Newspaper opinion was almost
completely condemnatory, altho The
New York Daily News thought the
number of criminals who have es-
caped severe penalties had planted
a distrust of the law in many minds.
It traced the beginning of this feel-
ing to the Loeb-Leopold case. Clar-
ence Darrow, who saved them from
the death penalty, "must take the
blame for a large part of that
breakdown," the newspaper said.

'DEPTH OF INFAMY'

Other opinions:
San Francisco—Rabbi Irving F.
Reichert: "It was a sadistic exhi-
bition unworthy of California or
any community calling itself civil-
ized. Millions of Californians will
indignantly repudiate Gov. Rolph's
statement."

New York—Arthur Gasfield Hays:
"Gov. Rolph will some day regret
his approval of law breakers and
his last advice to other mobs to go
and do likewise. History has shown
that civilization depends upon the
strict enforcement of the law."

New York—The Rev. John Haynes
Holmes: "I regret Gov. Rolph's
statement on the San Jose horror.
The Gandy Dancers of the whole
country, his army of lynching in
America. If any man in public
office ever dreamed of an
overhaul of the laws of Cal-
ifornia, this is the time to do it."

'Heroes' of San Jose Boast of Mob's 'Act'

City Settles Down to Quiet
That Prevailed Before
Double Hanging

SAN JOSE, Calif.—Its lust
for revenge satiated, the mob
that lynched the killers of
Brooke Hart, today re-
sumed the quiet life that char-
acterized this community be-
fore young Hart was kidnaped
and slain.

Bodies of the kidnappers, Thomas
Thurmond and John Holmes, were in
the city morgue. The battered old
county jail and two scarred elms in
St. James Park where the men were
hanged remained to testify to the
mob spirit that seized the city.

TO GO UNPUNISHED

Hart, son of Alex J. Hart, owner
of San Jose's largest department
store, was buried here yesterday. It
was the finding of his mutilated body
in San Francisco Bay, 17 days after
he disappeared that set off the fury
of the mob.

Ring leaders of the lynchers
go unpunished. This became cer-
tain when Gov. James Rolph Jr.,
brooding nation-wide condemna-
tion, publicly announced he con-
demned the hangings and would
pardon any man arrested.

Rolph cancelled an engagement at
Boise, Idaho, because "conditions in
my state now are very unsettling,
making it unwise for me to leave."

NO ONE IDENTIFIED

Doubt was expressed by city and
county officials that any of the
lynchers would be arrested. They
insisted none of the leaders had
been identified and that action, if
any, must await recovery of Charles
William Emig. Emig was seriously
injured when the shrieking mob bat-
tered its way from the jail, seized
Thurmond and Holmes, and dragged
them to the execution place.

The sheriff was non-committal.
The district attorney said he could
not take action unless Emig ordered.
He expressed the belief the sheriff's
views would coincide with Gov.
Rolph's.

Meantime would be heroes pre-
claimed themselves leaders of the
mob. Many were boys in
their late teens. They proudly told
how they led the mob, how

they provided rope for the execu-
tions, and how they heaved tear
gas bombs and clubs to break into
the jail.

Scores of them stood in groups on
downtown streets all day yesterday,
willingly relating their stories. None
feared arrest and county officials
were reluctant to act. County
newspaper photographs proving oth-
erwise, authorities denied the youths
were among the lynchers and
ascribed their stories to a desire to
boast.

POLICE SURROUND HOME

The town lost its holiday aspect
at about the time of the funeral of
young Hart. Altho a police guard
surrounded the family's parental
home, few persons came near the
place.

The services were conducted by a
Jewish rabbi and the eulogy was de-
livered by a Jesuit priest. Hart had
attended Santa Clara University,
Jesuit institution near here. Many
of his classmates formed a guard of
honor as the hearse proceeded to the
Jesuit cemetery.

Mrs. Alex Hart, mother of the
kidnaping victim, was in exclusion.
She was denied the opportunity of
seeing the body. Friends advised
her to "remember Brooke" as he
was.

Both Mrs. Hart and Mrs. Lillian
Thurmond, mother of the younger
victim of the lynchers, were
reported prostrated. Mrs. Thur-
mond's condition was said to be
critical as the result of shock.

In her behalf, Oscar Goldmann, an
attorney, issued a statement which
said that her son was "unhappily
mentally because of a severe head
injury in childhood."

Goldmann also claimed that Thur-
mond was "insane."

Holmes' father, Maurice Holmes,
a reported tailor here, insisted that
his son was innocent. The widow of
the lynching victim and the aged
mother of the dapper old politician
also made the same statement. The
father visited the prison a few
hours before the mob formed.

Neither the Holmes nor the Thur-
mond families announced plans for
the burial of the victims. The bodies
lay side by side in the city morgue.

Authorities said that the elm tree
from which Thurmond and Holmes
were hanged would be removed.
Souvenir hunters cut away bark and
limbs from the tree which stood
near a statue dedicated to President
William McKinley.

WASHINGTON D.C. TIMES, November 28, 1933.

JUSTICE'S NOTE SPELLS 'FINIS' TO HANGINGS

San Jose Quiet, Members of
Mob. Exempt From Arrest,
Brag of Lynching Act

SAN JOSE, Cal., Nov. 28 (U.S.)—The ultimate lynchings of Jack Holmes and Thomas H. Thurmond, confessed killers and kidnapers of 22-year-old Brooke Hart are a "closed affair." Finis will be written today by a justice of the peace, before whom the two men were to be arraigned on kidnapping charges. The justice of the peace, Chester W. Moore, will make an entry on the official court record of the case of "The people of the State of California versus Thomas Thurmond and John Holmes."

Exempt by Hanging

The entry will read: "This action was terminated by the death of hanging of the above defendants in St. James Park, November 24, 1933."

With that notation the lynchings of Holmes and Thurmond, who were dragged by a hate-mad mob from the Old Santa Clara county jail, will be officially closed.

As the usually peaceful Santa Clara valley settled down to routine duties once more, the storm of comment, both praising and criticizing the hanging, came from all sections of the country.

Sheriff William J. Emig, who was beaten down with his deputies by the Lynch mob, was still in a serious condition in a hospital from concussion of the brain. He was still in the iron pipe.

Trees Must Go

The two trees in St. James Park, the public square across the street from the county jail, where Thurmond and Holmes were hanged while the mob of 100 cheered, were boarded up today by order of the city manager and will be removed.

At his parents' home here today, Alex Hart, father of the San Jose youth, hid his grief.

"I am going right back to work," Brooke said. "I want to see what I can do for the world."

Brooke Hart Drowned; No Bullet Hole Found

OAKLAND, Cal., Nov. 28 (U.S.)—Brooke L. Hart, kidnaped San Jose youth, came to his death by drowning.

This was the opinion today of Dr. O. D. Hamlin, autopsy surgeon for the Alameda county district attorney's office, who examined the boy's body shortly after it was recovered from San Francisco Bay.

No trace of bullet wounds or skull fracture could be found in X-ray photographs, specialists said.

WASHINGTON D.C. POST, November 29, 1933.

Sheriff's Hurts Delay Lynching Probe by Jury

Later Action Will Depend
on District Attorney
at San Jose.

San Jose, Calif., Nov. 28 (AP).—No action is contemplated by the grand jury on the lynching of Thomas Thurmond and John M. Holmes, confessed kidnapers and slayers of Brooke L. Hart, when it holds its first meeting tomorrow morning, Charles L. Snyder, foreman, said tonight.

Whether any action will be taken later, Snyder said, depends upon whether District Attorney Fred L. Thomas presents any information to the jury.

Thomas declared he had nothing to present because he had not talked with Sheriff William J. Emig, now in a serious condition in a local hospital from injuries received when the mob stormed the county jail Sunday night.

Thomas stated that complaints sworn by Sheriff Emig against Thurmond and Holmes on the kidnaping charges will be dismissed to clear the records.

Reports that members of Thurmond's family were preparing to file damage suits against Gov. James Rolph Jr. were branded as "absolute lies" by the Rev. R. J. Thurmond, brother of one of the lynching victims. He declared such action had not been discussed at any time by the family. He also denied that additional attorneys had been retained by the family.

The condition of Sheriff Emig and of Chief Jailer Howard Buffington was declared "slightly better" tonight.

Repairs were being carried out at the county jail where the mob wrecked the steel doors. Across the street in St. James Park, where the two men were being held, brown-sweatered hunters had been down the fence built around the trees by the park department and continued to strip bits of bark as souvenirs.

NOT RECORDED

WASHINGTON D.C. TIMES, November 20, 1933.

JURORS IGNORE SAN JOSE MOB

SAN JOSE, Cal., Nov. 20 (U.N. S.)—Failure of the Santa Clara County Grand Jury to take formal notice of the lynchings of Jack Holmes and Thomas H. Thurmond, confessed kidnappers and murderers of Brooks Hart, 22, today confirmed the belief that no legal action would be instituted against members of the mob that stormed the jail here Sunday and hanged the pair.

District Attorney Fred L. Thomas appeared before the grand jury and announced: "We have nothing to offer at this time."

Private funeral services were conducted for Holmes and Thurmond. Both were buried in the same cemetery where their young victim's son of Alex J. Hart, wealthy department store owner, was buried.

Following the funeral services, the Rev. Roy J. Thurmond, brother of the lynch victim, visited Sheriff William J. Emig at San Jose Hospital where Emig is still confined with a slight concussion of the brain.

The Rev. Mr. Thurmond expressed appreciation to Sheriff Emig for his heroic but vain effort to save his brother from the mob.

W H F S

WASHINGTON, D.C., Nov. 27, November 30, 1933.

Dual Lynching Case Ignored By Grand Jury

Thurmond Buried Under
Guard; Holmes Rites
Held Secretly.

San Jose, Calif., Nov. 26 (AP).—The county grand jury, meeting today, devoted its entire time to organization details and took no cognizance of the lynching of John M. Holmes and Thomas H. Thurmond, slayers of Brooks Hart.

At the San Jose Hospital, where he has been recovering from injuries inflicted by the mob, Sheriff William J. Emig said he soon will confer with District Attorney Fred L. Thomas on what course to follow in regard to the lynchings.

Chief on Prosecution

Emig described a conversation he had with Thurmond before the confessed kidnaper was being by the mob.

"Do you think they're going to hang me?" the sheriff and Thurmond asked, tears running down his cheeks.

"Well, I can't tell you much longer," Emig told him. Then he asked the cowering prisoner a final question.

"Was anyone beside you and Jack Holmes connected with the kidnapping?"

"No Third Party in Crime."

"Before my father," Thurmond replied, the sheriff said, "Holmes and I handled the kidnapping from start to finish. No one else was mixed up in it."

Funerals for the two men were held today, Thurmond's body being entombed at Oak Hill after services in an undertaker's chapel. Police stood guard and deputies of Sheriff Emig's staff were present at Oak Hill.

Simple rites for Holmes were held secretly at another parlor and the body was taken to Oak Hill for cremation today.

NOT RECORDED

7-375-H

WASHINGTON D.C. HERALD, November 22, 1933.

The Lynching

IT is impossible to justify lynching. Under whatever circumstances it occurs, it must be viewed as an act of grave social violence.

The Hearst papers are fixedly and resolutely opposed to lynch law.

And yet—the lynching in San Jose of the two human fiends who first kidnaped and promptly murdered young Brooke Hart, and THEN sought the payment from his parents of a large ransom to secure his release and safety, after his lifeless body had already been sunk in the waters of San Francisco Bay, makes out a case for suspension of judgment, if not condonation which one would have thought could never arise.

The Hearst papers have repeatedly sounded a warning that the crime of kidnaping would arouse the people of the United States to frenzy if it were not immediately put down. No crime is so revolting. None involves so direct and immediate a menace to the home and to the life and security of every man, woman and child.

WE have repeatedly given warning to the crime detecting and prosecuting agencies of the country that only the extremest energy in the pursuit and punishment of those guilty of this crime or its attempted commission would avert just what has happened in California.

The incident does not mark the collapse or even the weakness of society. On the contrary it is an impressive social phenomenon carrying, as the governor of California truthfully says, a lesson.

Americans are tolerant and patient under normal circumstances. They do not expect nor require the impossible of their officials. They know that a certain amount of crime must go unpunished.

But the crime of kidnaping they will not brook. It must stop even if the people are forced to take the law into their own hands.

And in such a challenge to their manhood and humanity, as is implied in the atrocious act of the kidnaper, their anger knows no bounds. Their instinct of self-protection will obey no restraint.

NOT RECORDED

053/500

Mr.	NATHAN
Dr.	CORRA
Dr.	LOREN
Dr.	WILLIAM
Dr.	JAMES
Dr.	JOHN
Dr.	EDWARD
Dr.	LUCAS

-By Arthur Brisbane

Nov. 27.

Every man in the mob on reflection, will regret the treatment of Sheriff Knig, who did his duty, detaining the prisoners, was knocked senseless and sent to a hospital. To Sheriff Knig the capture of the kidnapers is due. He arrested one of them, Thurmond, while he telephoned a threatening message to the parents of the kidnaped man.

But there is good in evil. From this lynching those engaged in the kidnaping industry or contemplating it will learn that kidnaping is unpopular, leads to death for the criminals and becomes for them more dangerous every day.

The two victims of the crash
were the crew chief and the
pilot.

WASHINGTON D.C. POST, November 29, 1933.

Cry Against Rolph Defense Of Lynchers Grows Louder

Governors, Civic Bodies
Add Their Voices to
Condemnation.

San Jose, Calif., Nov. 28 (AP).—Sharp phrases of condemnation flashed across the continent today revealing the attitude of governors, civic organizations and prominent individuals toward lynching and particularly toward the summary hanging here Sunday night of John Holmes and Thomas Thorne.

The outstanding official contrasts were those of Gov. James Rolph, Jr., of California, whose condemnation of the lynching of the confessed kidnappers and slayers of Brooke Hart brought forth a deluge of censure and congratulations; and of Gov. Albert C. Ritchie, of Maryland, who ordered out the National Guard to arrest suspected members of a lynching party.

The California League of Women Voters, under the name of its president, Mrs. Marietta J. Rice of Berkeley, sent a telegram to Rolph terming his condemnation of the lynching a "plain violation of your duty of office, perversion of law and order and a practical invitation to further such violence."

new" in connection with the lynching of Hart's kidnappers. However, he added, "The kidnappers got what they deserved."

Bishop Cries Apology.

New York, Nov. 28 (AP).—Bishop William T. Manning called for a public apology from Gov. Rolph of California tonight for the governor's statement approving the San Jose lynching.

Declaring the governor's statement "struck at the root of our whole system of government," the bishop said:

"The governor's action is a betrayal of his trust as chief executive and an affront to the State of California and to the people of the United States. He should retract his statement at once and publicly apologize for it or he should be removed from office."

Sees National Concern.

Atlanta, Nov. 28 (AP).—Mrs. Jessie Daniel Ames, executive director of the Association of Southern Women for the Prevention of Lynching, today said Gov. Rolph's endorsement of the lynching of the California kidnappers was a matter of national concern.

She telegraphed the governor deploring "your atrocious attitude" and said "we are grateful no Southern governor of today has made himself a public defender and protector of lynchers."

NOT RECORDED

WASHINGTON D.C. HERALD, November 28, 1933.

Heraldings

By George Rothwell Brown

San Jose, California, as the
chief would say, serves up a
lynching as in Maryland.

Gov. Bert Ritchie, however,
hasn't got the courage of
Gov. Jim Rolph's convictions.
Bert hailing from a State
where a lynching has been
conducted by a mob instead of by
a vigilance committee.

As Thurmond and Holmes
looked at each other there at
the mob battered down the
jail they hadn't seen such hu-
man terror depicted on any
face since the day they had
murdered young Hart.

THE last legal hanging in San
Jose was back in 1878.
Maybe if there had been more
there wouldn't have been a
lynching.

We should have more courts

dence in Lynch law if the mob
had ever shown any capacity
for the patient investigation
which always precedes an ar-
rest by the legally constituted
authorities. The gallows haunts
the mind of the criminal more
than the fumb of an elm.

Maryland and California
under the same emotional
stress only go to prove the
truth of that sage observation
by Mr. Kipling:

"For the 'sinner's' sake
Judy O'Grady,
Are sisters under their skin."

NOT RECORDED

WASHINGTON D.C. POST, November 28, 1933.

California's "Lesson."

Gov. Rolph of California has a heavy responsibility in the lynching of Thomas Thurmond and Jack Holmes, confessed kidnapers and murderers of Brooks Hart, son of a San Jose department store proprietor.

In the interval between the finding of the body of young Hart in San Francisco Bay and the minute in which the mob found the courage to batter down the jail door to take the prisoners, the Governor of California commented: "I imagine the finding of the body will create a renewed sense of indignation."

The Associated Press quotes him as having said also: "Wait! Call out troops to protect these two guys!"

After the mob had run wild, wrecked the jail, beheaded and burned the bodies of the two men, the Governor said, according to the same authority: "This is the best lesson California has ever given the country. We show the country that the State is not going to tolerate kidnapping."

Those who know the case histories of lynchings know that in more than nine out of ten complicated public officials have given passive, if not active, aid. A mob is usually cowardly. It requires time to produce its leaders and to work itself into that emotional frenzy in which men throw off the vestiges of civilization and prepare for the blood-letting. That time interval offers the courageous public official his opportunity to mass his forces and demonstrate the teeth of his oath to uphold law.

Those hours found Gov. Rolph rushing his troops to San Jose or calling out the local militia; they found him doing nothing; apparently, he struggled the forces of local officials who were fast losing control of the situation. They deserted him; none, the other said, giving aid and comfort to the mob in the form of inaction. That he, the chief executive of the State, would not invoke his powers to put down the defiance.

Without attempting to measure his responsibility for what happened, Gov. Rolph is clearly wrong in stating the lesson to be drawn: extra-legal mass murder will not

be tolerated. The lesson is that the State must show the lynch mob that it has power. It is the power of the State which is the only power which can protect the weak and the innocent from the lawless.

California's lesson is that the best kind of emotional frenzy are still able to overwhelm primitive passions and later urges, in which all standards feared by the human race in centuries of circling, go down.

Gov. Rolph and California have an opportunity to give America a lesson that will have been worth while. The lesson is that the State and its laws are not to be trifled with. The lesson is that the State is not to be trifled with.



ER. 28, 1933

U.S. Interest In Lynched Pair Ceases

Federal Indictments Merely Will Be Al- lowed to Lapse

The Federal indictments against William H. Thornton and John Holmes will be ignored now that the Brooks Hart kidnapers have been punished by lynch law.

"We will pay no more attention to them," H. H. McPike, United States Attorney, said yesterday. "They merely will be allowed to lapse."

Thornton and Holmes, who were charged with using the mails to extort \$40,000 from Alex J. Hart, father of the kidnaped and murdered youth, were never officially arrested by the Federal authorities. The warrants, issued immediately after the indictments were returned last Wednesday, were merely handed to the San Francisco police shortly before the kidnapers' murders were visited on the Santa Clara jail.

STOOD READY TO ACT

"It was never the intention of the Federal authorities," McPike said, "to claim the first right to try the kidnapers. We stood ready at all times to let the State courts have their way. The indictments were returned merely as a safeguard in the event Thornton and Holmes should escape punishment on the kidnapping or murder charges or if they should have been able to free themselves from jail on bail."

Wood H. Johnson, chief of the San Francisco office of the Department of Justice, which is generally credited with trapping Thornton and Holmes, said no action would be taken by the Federal Government.

NOT FEDERAL PRISONERS

"They were not in Federal prison," he explained, "but were in the custody of the State officers."

Washington, Justice added, had never making of the lynchings merely in a routine report. The Department of Justice, he said, had made no comment on the lynchings.

San Francisco

33.

7-375-A

WASHINGTON D.C. TIMES, December 7, 1933.

Justice and Law

To cry out against the mob at San Jose is almost as easy as to defend it. No parent of defenseless children could resist the first quick shock of the event, saying, "They had it coming to them," and feeling that for once, perhaps, lynching was justified. That protective and avenging instinct is both savage and human; and the studied belief in justice and the law, in the justice which the law is supposed to bring, is both human and superhuman, failing us again and again, failing us particularly when the law fails to bring justice. But we have to continue to support the law if we want law ever to support us, even when the law breaks down. We have to think that some day mobs may rise, not against kidnappers but against men of strange color or strange beliefs, or will beat to death the falsely accused, or will consider that economic heresy as dangerous to a community as murder. And we have to consider also that the mob in San Jose was not led by heartbroken or frightened parents of little children. It was led, as far as we can tell, by a boy himself as irresponsible as a child—or as a mob.

NOT RECORDED

7-375-A

WASHINGTON D.C., POST, December

1933.

Hollywood Easier About Kidnapings

So Says Jean Harlow in
Commenting on Recent
Lynchings.

San Francisco, Dec. 4 (AP).—Jean Harlow, prominent blond screen actress, said here today that members of the Hollywood film colony "rest more easily" since the lynching in San Jose, Calif., of the kidnap-slayers of Brooks L. Hart.

"The Harlow said she did not approve of lynchings, but added that the San Jose affair will undoubtedly make those planning kidnappings think twice."

Because of exaggerated reports of the film stars' salaries and sometimes money, of us have been in fear of kidnapping," she said. The actress is in San Francisco with her husband, Hal C. Rooster, Hollywood camera man, who is interviewing Chinese characters here in connection with a contemplated film.

NOT RECORDED

WASHINGTON D.C. 20540, December 7, 1933.

HART REWARD PAID TWO

Men Who Found Body Given \$500
by Kidnap Victim's Father.

SAN JOSE, Calif., December 7 (AP).—The \$500 reward offered by Act J. Hart, San Jose merchant, for recovery of the body of his son, Brooke Hart, kidnap-murder victim, was paid yesterday to H. E. Stephens and L. L. Davis of Redwood City.

The men found the body in Lower San Francisco Bay while duck hunting. Only a few hours later Thomas H. Thurmond and John M. Holmes, who confessed the kidnaping and slaying, were lynched.

Mr. Nathan	_____
Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Clegg	_____
Mr. Glavin	_____
Mr. Ladd	_____
Mr. Nichols	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Tracy	_____
Mr. Carson	_____
Mr. Egan	_____
Mr. Gurnea	_____
Mr. Hendon	_____
Mr. Jones	_____
Mr. Quinn	_____
Mr. Nease	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

NOT RECORDED

7-375-A

FATHER OFFERS \$500 FOR KIDNAP VICTIM'S BODY

San Jose, Cal., Nov. 24.—(AP)—A search of San Francisco bay for the body of Brooks L. Hart was spurred by a \$500 reward offer today, while his two alleged kidnapers and slayer waited trial in the county jail here.

Alex. J. Hart, San Jose merchant and father of the 21-year-old kidnaping victim, offered the reward after more than a week of efforts to recover the body had failed.

Thomas H. Thorndom and John H. Holmes, who state and federal authorities assert confessed abducting Hart and throwing him from the San Mateo bridge in a \$40,000 ransom plot, were closely guarded in their cells here.

Complaints charging them with kidnaping under the state law making the penalty death in 214 instances, were filed by Sheriff H. C. Clark.

Chicago Daily News

NOT RECORDED

11-24-33

7-375-A

WASHINGTON B. C. STAR January 1, 1924

Mr. Tolson	
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Glavin	
Mr. Ladd	
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tracy	
Mr. Carson	
Mr. Egan	
Mr. Gurnea	
Mr. Harbo	
Mr. Hendon	
Mr. Jones	
Mr. Quinn	
Mr. Nease	
Mr. Gandy	

**GRAND JURY TO PROBE
LYNCHING AT SAN JOSE**

January 11 Set as Date for Inquiry
Into Deaths of Kidnapers
of Brooke L. Hart.

By the Associated Press
SAN JOSE, Calif., January 4.—A grand jury probe of the recent lynching here of the two kidnap-slavers of Brooke L. Hart was set yesterday for January 11. District Attorney Fred Thomas announced the evidence collected by his office will be placed at that time.
Indictment of persons other than Anthony Cataldi was held unlikely by Thomas, who said Cataldi's alleged participation in the lynching would be discussed thoroughly before the jury.

NOT RECORDED

7-375-A 60 WA 8

WASHINGTON D. C. STAR January 12 1936

Mr. Nathan
Mr. Tolson
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn
Mr. Nease
Mr. Gandy

**HOOVER WILL CONFER
ON JUSTICE REFORMS**

By the Associated Press.

FALO ALTO, Calif., January 12.—Former President Herbert Hoover expressed interest in proposed criminal justice reforms here yesterday as he visited S. C. Thompson, former Santa Clara County Bar Association president, to discuss the matter with him.

Thompson, who has proposed several reforms in the campaign launched by this industry after the late January issue of the *Albany Times Union* attacked the Hoover administration's handling of the discussion.

Mr. Hoover was one of the signers to a recent statement favoring Gov. James H. Hahn, Jr., of California, for expressing approval of the San Jose trial.

NOT RECORDED

W H R 8

WASHINGTON D. C. HERALD January 12, 1934.

MR. TOLSON _____
MR. CLEGG _____
MR. GLAVIN _____
MR. LADD _____
MR. NICHOLS _____
MR. ROSEN _____
MR. TRACY _____
MR. Egan _____
MR. Gurnea _____
MR. Hendon _____
MR. Jones _____
MR. Quinn Tamm _____
MR. Nease _____
Miss Gandy _____

**Lynch Indictment
Refused by Jury**
SAN JOSE, Calif., Jan. 17 (U. P.).—The Santa Clara county grand jury tonight formally refused to indict anyone in connection with the lynching of two kidnap-slavers here. District Attorney Thomas said the case of Anthony Cataldi, accused as one of the men that lynched Thomas Thurnmond and John Holmes, would go on.

[Handwritten signature]

10-6-34

Hart Lynch Jury Fails to Indict

KAN. JURY, CAL. 12-18-37.
Because of "inadequate" evidence
the Santa Clara County Grand
Jury indicted ~~nothing~~ for the lynch-
ing of two suspected kidnap-slayers
of Brooke L. Hart.

In a resolution adopted at the
conclusion of its investigation the
Grand Jury said evidence presented
was "totally inadequate to justify
indictments against any person."
The resolution said, however, the
jury was ready to hear "any addi-
tional" evidence which might be pre-
sented in the future.

District Attorney Frank Thomas
said the jury's failure to indict did
not mean he will not file criminal
charges against seventeen-year-
old Anthony Cataldi, alleged leader
of the mob which killed John M.
Holmes and Thomas H. Thurmond
on November 24. Cataldi will be
given a preliminary hearing tomor-
row.

Shad Fisher 4/4/3

SAN JOSE, CALIF., Feb. 15 (U. S. P.).—A charge against Anthony Cataldi, 18-year-old farm youth, of participating in the San Jose lynching, was dismissed at his preliminary hearing here today on the motion of Deputy District Attorney Herbert Bridges.

NATHAN
TOLSON
CLEGG
LAWLEY
SEWARD
WILLIAMS
QUINN
NESTER
LOAN
HORN

Youth Dismissed In Coast Lynching

SAN JOSE, Calif., Feb. 15 (U. S. P.).—A charge against Anthony Cataldi, 18-year-old farm youth, of participating in the San Jose lynching, was dismissed at his preliminary hearing here today on the motion of Deputy District Attorney Herbert Bridges.

NOT RECORDED

Priest Charges Radio Inflamed Mob to Hang 2

Air Censorship Prohibits
Public Confidence,
Commission Hears.

(Associated Press)

Two Californians came out of the West yesterday to tell the communications commission that radio was responsible for the San Jose lynching last November and that a "censorship" makes it impossible for the public to "have as much confidence in radio programs as they have in newspapers."

The commission heard the first statement from Father Cornelius Deeney, professor of political science at Santa Clara College. S. Howard Evans, representing the Ventura Free Press, made the latter assertion.

The lynching to which Father Deeney referred was that of Thomas H. Thurmond and John M. Holmes, confessed kidnaper-slayers of Brooke Hart, a 22-year-old former Santa Clara student.

The Jesuit educator said few persons "thought of taking the law into their own hands" after capture of the two men until a Los Angeles station 400 miles away announced a mob was marching toward the San Jose jail.

"That was the first inkling most people of that district had of the proposed lynching," he continued. "When they heard the announcement, hundreds dashed from their homes to join the mob."

As a result, he added, police were helpless and the mob succeeded.

Evans, after saying that the present system of licensing "makes broadcasting unsound and unfair," added:

"The pretense of a free commercial competition on the air has misled many listeners into believing that they can have as much confidence in radio programs as they have, for instance, in newspapers."

"As a matter of fact, broadcasting is subject to a censorship which makes such confidence unjustified."

WASH POST

San Francisco Chronicle
November 27th, 1934

7-27
THOMAS H. THURMOND
JOHN M. HOLMES
BROOKS L. HART - VICTIM
KIDNAPING

Holmes Family Renews Fight For Damages

New Suit Filed on First Anniversary of San Jose Lynching

On the first anniversary of the day when lynch law swept the city of San Jose into a carnival of death, the family of one lynching victim yesterday renewed its efforts to collect damages from Sheriff William J. Ewig, his bondsmen and deputies.

Memories of that hate-inspired mob which stormed the County Jail and dragged the slayers of Brooks Hart to public and ignominious death in St. James Park were revived with the filing of the suit by the family of John M. Holmes. In company with Thomas H. Thurmond, just one year ago last night, Holmes was beaten into semiconsciousness and his nude body hanged to a tree.

FIRST ACTION FAILS

It was the failure of the first and defense of the ancient County Jail against the howling mob of 30,000 that prompted the Holmes family last April to ask damages of \$1,000,000, naming as defendants Governor Ralph, Sheriff Ewig and more than 100 others connected in one way or another with the case.

The original action failed when demurrers were sustained for various reasons. In connection with Governor Ralph, for instance, it was pointed out that his public condemnation of the lynch mob was made after the lynching and therefore could have had no effect toward stopping the mob.

NEW SUIT ASKS \$1,000,000

Now the Holmes family in a new action which comes within the scope of limitations for civil cases by a matter of hours, are asking \$1,000,000 in damages which is the sum for which Sheriff Ewig is bonded by the Columbia Casualty Company. Also named as a defendant. Other defendants in the new action are Edward Leavelle and John Walsh, deputies under Ewig, and Alfred Doherty, another deputy.

WASHINGTON D.C. POST
2-7-35

**U.S. Quashes Indictment
Against 2 Lynched Men**

St. Francis, Feb. 6 (AP).—Grand jury indictment charging they sent threatening letters through the mails, was dismissed against two dead men today. The men were John M. Holmes and Thomas H. Thompson, who were lynched after awaiting trial on charges of kidnaping and killing young Beulah Bart.

1

7-375-A

WILL 2 IN HART CASE

Re: THOMAS H. HERNAND

JOHN HILLIS

ROBERT L. HART - Victim.

Kidnaping.

San Francisco "Call", dated 11/16/35.

WAB 2 AS HART
KIDNAPERS

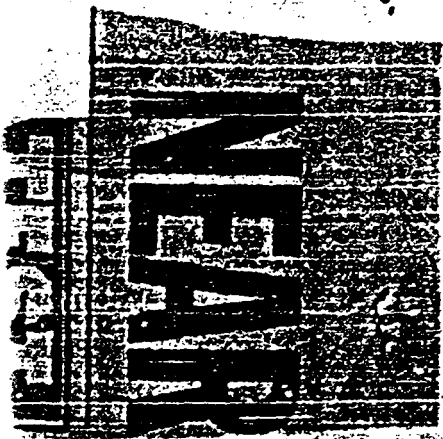
San Francisco "Call", dated 11/16/35.
The above information was received from a confidential source who has provided reliable information in the past.
The source has provided information that the above information is true and correct.
The source has provided information that the above information is true and correct.
The source has provided information that the above information is true and correct.

2 IN HART CASE, RETURN

W 2/1

Re: THOMAS F. RICHARDSON
JOHN BULLOCK
RICHARD L. HART - Victim.
Kidnaping.
San Francisco, Calif., dated 11/16/55.

fm



NAB 245 HART
KIDNAPERS

Continued from Page One
...in the United States...
...the Federal Bureau of Investigation...
...the Department of Justice...
...agents working on the case and 41.

middle of the San Mateo-Hayward bridge. They stopped and placed a pillow over his head. After knocking the youth unconscious, they bound him with wire, weighted him with two concrete blocks and dropped him into the water.

In a new version given by Holmes, Thurnmond allegedly fired two shots at the youth in the water and believed that one shot had hit him. Another block was thrown into the bay near the spot where the body fell.

Authorities reported that they had started on the raising of the bridge. Examination was to be made to determine whether the slams were blood.

Partial corroboration of the principal story came from two wood gatherers who wrote Chief of Police J. N. Black that they heard cries for help near the bridge Nov. 10 the night Hart disappeared. The wood gatherers claimed that they searched the vicinity but found no trace of the persons they heard calling. They did not mention hearing any shots fired.

Holmes, a dapper and smiling former oil salesman, was visited by his wife and two children, by his father Maurice Holmes, a tailor, and by Mrs. R. Langdon, San Francisco.

He had no visitors.

After a short visit, Mrs. Holmes was led away screaming.

MAY REPUDIATE

From London it was learned that Holmes probably would repudiate the confession in which he detailed a crime that paralleled the Lindbergh and the Parker kidnapping cases in almost every phase. In all three crimes the victim was killed before ransom was demanded.

The kidnapping left a broken family in the palatial residence of Alex Hart, father of the victim. The mother, who had undergone an operation several weeks ago, was reported in a coma. The father, who fainted when news of the boy's death was brought to him, was still prostrated.

HARNESS BUSINESS BOOMED

SALEM, Ore.—Receipts of genuine horse pants to Willapa Valley farms, replacing tractors, sent business of J. L. Oley and C. A. Rockhill booming. Proprietors of a Salem harness shop, they have doubled the size of their store as result of increasing demand on new leather goods.

Re: UNKNOWN SUSPECTS
BROOKE HART - Victim.
Kidnaping.

Ransom Set At \$40,000 In S.F. Call

Brooke Hart, Son of
Leading Merchant, Dis-
appears After
Business

Father Telephoned by
Abductors From Ho-
tel Whitcomb

Brooke Hart, 22-year-old son of one of San Jose's wealthiest merchants, was being sought last night as the victim of a \$40,000 kidnaping plot.

The youth, son of Alexander J. Hart, and a partner with his father of the Hart Department Store, disappeared shortly after he left the company's place of business about 3 o'clock yesterday afternoon.

DAN GETS PHONE CALL

Shortly after 11 o'clock last night Hart's father received a telephone call demanding \$40,000 for the safe return of his son.

The call was traced to a telephone pay booth in the Whitcomb Hotel here. Police hastened to the hotel, but could find no trace of the kidnapers.

Hart told police a man's voice on the phone after demanding \$40,000 said further instructions would be forthcoming in the morning.

CALLER HANGS UP

Immediately after their brief conversation, the party on the other end of the line hung up.

Hart's conversation with the police, for a time, every effort was made by police to identify the voice of the man who made the demand.

Meanwhile police throughout the Bay Area were alerted and a widespread hunt was on.

In San Francisco, police were called through the night to search for the kidnapers.

Rich San Jose Man Kidnaped

(Continued From Page 1)
youth came from the father they joined in with a will.

Many of them took out their cars and patrolled the highways. The youth drove away from the store to his own Studebaker radiator, bearing the license number, 1-N-1081.

Belief the youth was driven here in the car was expressed when the ransom demand call was traced to the Hotel Whitcomb.

CAR NOT SEEN

At the hotel here no employee remembered having seen the car and could not recall any suspicious appearing persons using a telephone booth there.

The Hart family is rated one of the wealthiest in San Jose.

Hart Sr. is a contributor to various hotels and other interests.

Police said when young Hart failed to appear for dinner at 7 no particular anxiety was felt. As time went on members of the family concluded he had another engagement, but they waited for word from him in vain.

And then came the telephone message.

"Your son is kidnaped. We will want \$40,000 for his safe return. You will receive further instructions in the morning."

From the attitude of the police it was believed that the kidnapers had demanded money. The Police Department tried its best to ensure secrecy but the news leaked out and then there was nothing to do but admit it.

NOT RECORDED

7-375-A

Mr. Nathan
Mr. Tolson
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Jones
Mr. Quinn
Mr. Nease
Mr. Lester
Mr. Egan

BAY: BODY SOUGHT

DITION

Market

PRESTS

SEARCHERS

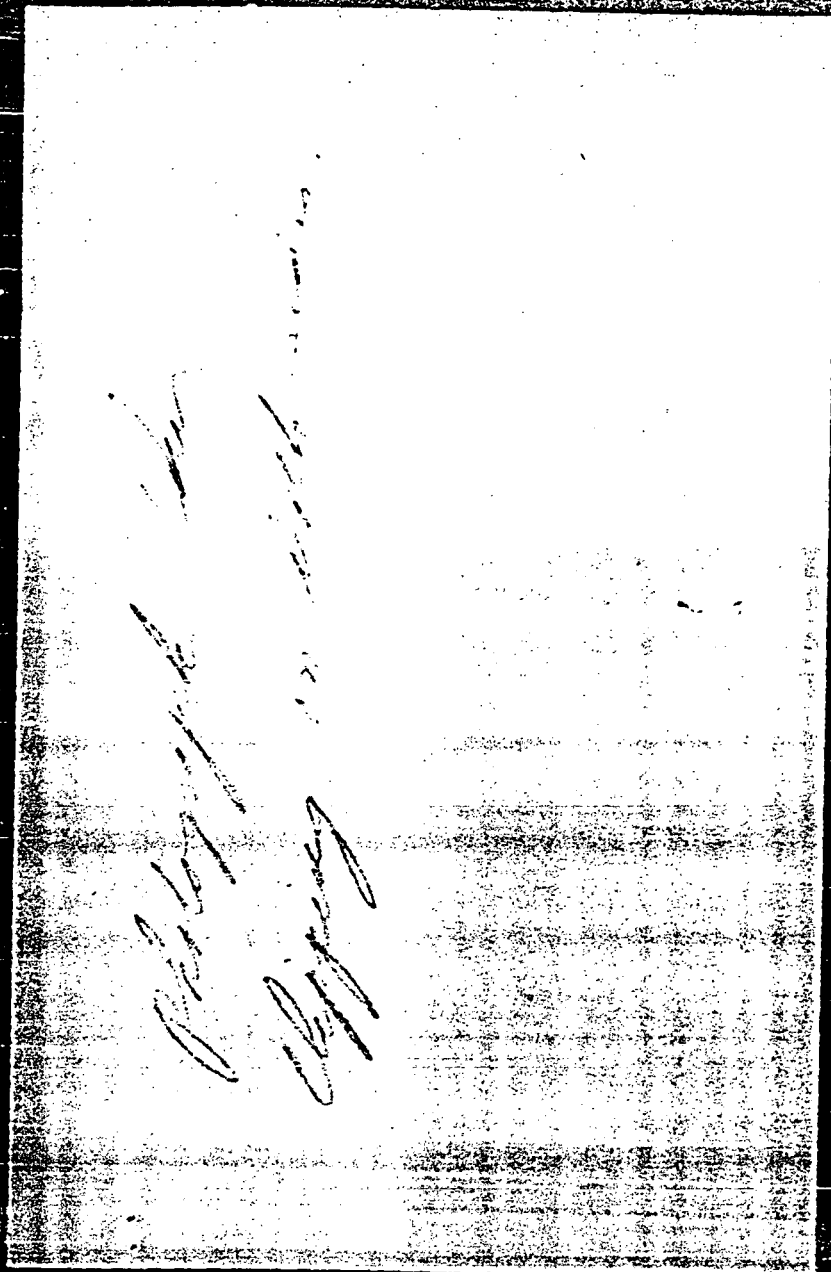
FOR HART

FIND HIS

SHIRT

San Francisco Bay Drugged
As 2 Kidnappers Admit
Hawking Value

RAY - RONY CONJECT



DAILY NE

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THE PARK

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The mother
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